



THE GREAT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

When Washington Irving needed an amusing antidote for his novel "The Life of Christopher Columbus" he used poetic license and created the myth that people thought the world was flat and Columbus set off to prove it wasn't. This goes to show how fiction, when repeated enough, can be considered the truth.

Columbus's accomplishments were so great that they really didn't need any embellishment. Understanding the world at the time of his exploration adds to the awesomeness of his journey. The concept that the world was round dates back well over 2,000 years. The discrepancy that existed was just how big was this sphere and what percentage of the earth's surface was covered by land.

European nations enjoyed free trade with India and China to their mutual benefit. The Mongol Empire facilitated safe passage through Asia until Muslims of the Ottoman Empire, who created an economic blockade, toppled them. To avoid violent confrontation, the Europeans sought alternative routes to India. The most common was the long, arduous ocean voyage around Africa. As difficult as the route proved to be, no alternative existed.

The idea that a ship could sail westward and reach the shores of India was bantered about from time to time but was rejected for various reasons. Hints that there was a landmass between the two known continents was not proven at the time. If calculations about the size of the earth were correct, then the journey across the ocean would be twice the distance of the known landmass. Most calculations had the earth measuring much smaller in circumference than it actually was. Yet, there was no one who championed the idea to venture out into the great unknown other than Columbus.

The vision of his exploration and the passion with which he promoted it are commendable, but this only speaks to one aspect of his greatness. Columbus had to lobby for funds and convince others that his plan was viable and worthwhile. It was no small feat, politically and diplomatically. An achievement few statesmen can pull off.

A third aspect of Columbus's journey that is note worthy is his skill as a sailor and navigator, managing three ships on a 65-day journey before reaching land. He brought news of his discovery of this New World back to the Old World. The civilized world saw an opportunity for expansion and settlements began immediately. Columbus would make three more voyages before returning to Europe for good in 1504.

The turn of events attributed to Columbus dramatically changed the face of the earth and the world, as it was known. It is hard to imagine anything happening today that would parallel the significance of his accomplishment. Though there were some who preceded Columbus across the Atlantic, and many others who made it to the mainland, he is recognized as being the catalyst for developing America.

He has been an icon in his native country of Italy and when Italians immigrated to America they brought their adoration with them. He was first recognized in 1792 on the 300th anniversary of his voyage. The Italian population of New York City on October 12, 1866 organized the first celebration of the discovery of America.

In 1905, Colorado became the first state to observe Columbus Day as a holiday, eventually other states followed. In 1937, President Franklin Roosevelt proclaimed every October 12 as Columbus Day.

On October 6, 2006, the Sons of Peterstown will be hosting a dinner in honor of Columbus at the Peterstown Community Center, Elizabeth, NJ.



(above, l-r) Theresa DeMaio, Doreen Sacco, Angela Castaldo and Donna Garry sets the sails on the Sons of Peterstown Santa Maria float built for the Columbus Day Parade held in Elizabeth in 1990.



(left) Members of the Sons of Peterstown gather around the Statue of Christopher Columbus that stands along the Third Avenue side of the School 3 playground (O'Brian Field) in 1990.

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President's Message



The celebration after Italy's World Cup win was one of the biggest and best parties that Peterstown ever had.

The Sons of Peterstown has captured that spirit and will be dishing it out when we host a dinner to honor Columbus Day on Saturday, October 7th at the Peterstown Community Center. Tickets are already on sale and seating is limited to 250. I suggest you get your tickets as soon as possible from either myself or Joe Renna.

Following the World Cup win, I spent a few weeks in Italy with my family visiting relatives and sight seeing. Words could not describe how fantastic the trip was for me and my wife, but even more so for my kids. Walking through buildings a thousand years old and living in a culture unchanged for generations is an enlightening experience. It gives a person a perspective on life.

I have a bit of sad news to share in that my dog, Sheba, passed away after being part of my family and a friend to every customer and neighbor for the past 16 years.

Thank you and God bless.

John Sacco, President

PRESS RELEASES

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

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Letters to the Editor



Dear Mr. Renna,

It was indeed nostalgia time reading Bob Fernandez' insightful and uniquely descriptive story on Kirk (Midtown) Center. Personally, it was a vivid trip down memory lane with the vintage pictures of Bob, Phil Saxton, whom I managed and trained; Tony Orlando, Sr.; Rocky Albano, a popular Peterstown pugilist in the 30's-----and the Center's grand piano, which I played often after our workouts in the gym.

I was from North Elizabeth; but as so many others who developed an early interest in boxing, "Midtown" virtually became a second home.

Regarding Bob Fernandez, I have known him over 60 years; and I doubt that anyone's passion for boxing could surpass Bob's. He has impressed boxing enthusiasts for many years with his anecdotes and instant recall of fighters and boxing events. Much of his knowledge was acquired first-hand from attending many championship and top boxing matches; and talking with fighters and trainers in gyms and training camps.

Over the past few years, Bob has been doing some fighting with health problems. So, he put his time and vast knowledge to work and has become a prolific writer of boxing stories, with intimate details about prominent fighters.

Bob realized at an early age that collecting boxing memorabilia could be very lucrative. He was passing a tavern on Elizabeth Avenue and spotted a Zale-Graziano poster in the window. He asked the bar tender what he was going to do with it and was told, " take it kid, that fight is history". Bob took the poster and sold it years later for \$300. History indeed! Eventually, the International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York became a market place for exhibiting and selling his vast collection of boxing memorabilia. Some of his customers were Emille Griffith, Earnie Shavers, Joey Giardella and Billy Graham.

Bob will be inducted in the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame as a boxing historian in November at the Venetian in Garfield, New Jersey.

I reside in Toms River, with a considerable number of Elizabethans in this area. A group of us get together periodically to reminisce about Elizabeth, including my good friend Tommy Kaczmarek, one of the most distinguished judges in boxing history; Joe Postizzi, a municipal court judge in Clark for 25 years, and a good friend for over 70 years; Artie Capone, a pool shark from Elizabeth Avenue; Bill and Cliff West from Frog Hollow; and Lenny Ferrara from Peterstown. Joe Nugent and Dan Sullivan are also with us. Dan receives Around About Peterstown and passes it on.

We heartily commend and thank you and your staff for a unique, home-grown publication that we thoroughly enjoy. God bless you with continued success.

Pete Nozza
Toms River, NJ

Joe,

I found these pictures at my mom Mickie Esposito's house after she passed away in October, 2005. She went to Grover Cleveland Jr. High School and graduated in 1937.

After seeing the recent write-ups about Cleveland, I thought you could use them.

Janet Esposito Yanusz.
Mountainside, NJ

Editor's note: The names written on the back of the photos were incomplete and difficult to read. The boys in the photos would be in their early eighties today.



(above, standing, l-r) Cleveland's 1937 Jr. Varsity Basketball team, Christy, Um. Gleosar, Andy, Henry D., (sitting, l-r) Mickey D., Joe S., Pickles.



(above, standing, l-r) Cleveland's 1937 Senior Basketball team, Mr. Clarke, ____, Pat G., Alex Kay, Mikey C., Joe C. (sitting, l-r) John Pops, E. Ricle, Rich, Ward Sipping.

LETTER POLICY

Around About Peterstown welcomes Letters to the Editor at our postal, fax or e-mail addresses.

Letters must include sender's name, address and phone number (only name and town will be printed).

Letters should be typed. Letters appear as space permits. We reserve the right not to print a letter without notifying sender.

Dear Editor,

I was born and raised in Peterstown. My grandpa was Laborer Gatto and had the grocery store on Third Avenue and Amity Street. My father was Al Fortunato and he was a barber. I have been in Michigan for ten years and every year I travel back to New Jersey. My sister JoAnn saves me all your papers and I am literally returned to a greater and better life than any place on this planet! Thank you.

Santa Laskowski
Kalamazoo, Michigan
p.s. I am 77 years old and know what the old times were!

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Renna,

I really enjoy reading your paper. It brings back lots of happy memories.

Thanks,
Sandra Bellomo
Elizabeth, New Jersey

Hello Joe,

In your last issue you asked where in Elizabeth is route 25. I am circa 1926. Relying on just my memory, Route 25 was the same as U.S. 1. So was Spring Street in Elizabeth and Edgar Road in Linden.

I believe the following Wikipedia Article - Route 25 bears out my memory that Route 25 and U.S. 1 are one and the same as is Spring Street and Edgar Rd.

Best wishes,
Len Conte
Punta Gorda, FL



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

Route 1: 1916-1927:

The Route 1 Extension, one of two routes that were defined by the state legislature in 1916, is considered to be the first "super highway" in the United States. [1] The highway was built to carry large amounts of traffic from the Holland Tunnel to the rest of the country. The south end of the extension was at Edgar Road in Linden, just south of Elizabeth and the Bayway Circle. Edgar Road had been built as a shunpike in the 1800s, and now serves as part of U.S. Route 1/US 9 south of the extension.

The road was built from 1927 to 1932, with all but the Pulaski Skyway finished by 1930. It was a full freeway, mostly elevated, from four blocks west of the Holland Tunnel to Newark Airport, and a high-speed surface road from there to Elizabeth (and beyond).

The city of Elizabeth opposed the alignment along Spring Street, preferring the use of Division Street, but lost the argument.

Route 25: 1927-1953

In the 1927 renumbering, the majority of the Jersey City-Camden corridor, made of Routes 1 and 2, was assigned Route 25. Additionally, the former Route 1 between Elizabeth and New Brunswick became part of Route 27; a new alignment was planned from Elizabeth to south of New Brunswick, running east of the existing road and connecting directly with the Route 1 Extension.

Also in 1927, U.S. Route 1 was assigned to Route 25 north of the New Brunswick area (temporarily signed along Route 27 until Route 25 was finished).

In the 1953 renumbering, the whole route was decommissioned in favor of the U.S. Routes that were signed along it - US 30, US 130, US 1 and US 1 Business.

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

If you like the paper, please thank an advertiser. The businesses that advertise in this paper make it possible to print. You can show your appreciation for their support by patronizing their business's. If they keep advertising, we will keep printing.
Advertising starts at \$45 for a business card size ad, up to \$600 for a full page. Anyone interested in placing an ad can contact Tina Renna at (908) 709-0530.

Table with 2 columns: ADVERTISER and PAGE. Lists various businesses and their corresponding page numbers, such as All Jersey Realty (27), Alliance Plumbing & Heating (22), American Plumbing & Heating Supply (22), Amici's Restaurant (21), and Trinitas Cancer Center (4).

HILLSIDE UNICO WINS FIGHT TO KEEP COLUMBUS DAY AS SCHOOL HOLIDAY

It was almost arrivaderci Columbus Day for Hillside, NJ school children, according to Angelo Bonanno, president of the Hillside UNICO chapter. When it was learned that the local school board had eliminated Columbus from its printed 2006/07-school calendar, Bonanno enlisted the aid of the local Knights of Columbus council and he wrote to and appeared before the Hillside Board of Education urging it to restore this national holiday. He wrote that Columbus is not only important to Italian Americans, but is important to the Roman Catholic order of the Knights of Columbus, as the explorer is the organization's standard bearer.

The superintendent of schools said the proposed calendar did not include Columbus because of "the demands of other holidays". The other holidays are Yom Kipper, Memorial Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents Day and Id al Adha - an annual Muslim holiday.

The board ultimately decided to give students the day off, but the teachers are required to report for work.

The origins of this holiday date back to 1901 when President Benjamin Harrison declared October 12th the day when Columbus discovered America, a national holiday. And later in 1971, by an Act of Congress it was made a legal holiday meaning federal offices, postal service and banks are closed on this day.

In New Jersey, a conflict exists with this closing. One state law requires state and county offices to close for Columbus Day and one of the laws governing public schools permits flexibility. However, it mandates that appropriate patriotic exercises be held in public schools preceding Columbus Day among others.

Bonanno said, "Hillside's UNICO chapter will continue promoting Columbus Day and will seek possible state legislation for purposes of uniformity".



(above, l-r) Hillside Unico members Joseph Puglise, John O'Shea, Angelo Bonanno, Chapter President and Immediate Past District Governor of Unico National lay a wreath at a Columbus memorial in Convent Park.

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BATTIN AND TJ'S CLASSES OF '57 WILL HOLD 50 YEAR REUNIONS

A committee has been formed by the Thomas Jefferson High School Class of 1957 to hold a 50th reunion on October 6, 2007 at a hotel in Elizabeth (not decided yet). The committee has already held one meeting on July 25, 2006 and six classmates attended. Other classmates are urged to join or help the committee. Please contact any classmates you know. We need the addresses, telephone numbers and/or E-mails of as many classmates as we can get.

To furnish this information to the committee or for further details please call (908) 276-0951.

(below) is a photograph of our 25th year reunion held on October 9, 1982 at the Elizabeth Country Club. Can you recognize the following classmates who lived in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth?

Carmine Vemes, Edward L. Zappulla (deceased), David V. Conti, Joseph M. Guiro, Frank LaQualia, Donnie J. Ramos, Joseph Contrino, Louis A. Iozzi, Philip J. Rappoccio, Robert L. Oriscello (deceased), Joseph A. Napurano, Joseph C. DiMaggio, Charles R. DeGregorio, Joseph J. Faccone.

Battin High School Class of 1957 is also planning a 50th reunion in September 2007. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of class members who would like to attend can email JoAnne at ceil@ponymotor.com or call @973-625-1640 or write 17 Laurelwood Drive, Rockaway, NJ 07866.

(right, l-r) Organizers for the Battin High School Class of 1957 reunion, Joan (Stern) Sikalitza, Cecilia (Busco) Donofrio, JoAnn (Fortunato) Foti .



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(above and right) Joseph D'onofrio from 1961 and 2006.



(left) Newspaper account of Joe's involvement in war games training.



JOSEPH "BOOMER" D'ONOFRIO, 62

Joseph "Boomer" D'onofrio passed away April 29, 2006 at Veterans Hospital at the age of 62. Joe hailed from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ and was a daily presence up to his passing.

D'onofrio proudly served in the army from 1961-1963. He worked as a laborer out of Union Hall #394 for 35 years before retiring in 2005. In his younger years Joe tended bar at various clubs and was a fixture at the famed "Joey Harrison's Surf Club" where he was an honorary member.

Joe was tagged with his nickname "Boomer" by his army buddies when they noticed his talents as a percussionist in the drum and bugle corps. "Boomer was an avid music fan from Doo Wop to Jazz. He played in the popular club band "The Starlighters" in the '60s and 70s. Along with his passion for music, Joe had an

ROSE H. WADE DEBIASIO, 94

ROSE H. WADE DeBIASIO, 94, of Metedeconk, BRICK, passed away, Saturday, July 15, 2006 at Laurelton Village, Brick.

Born in Elizabeth, she lived in the Peterstown section and also in Roselle, moving to Brick in 1990. For thirty years, Mrs. Rose DeBiasio was employed as a machinist by Thomas and Betts, Elizabeth, retiring in 1972. Her greatest accomplishment was her family to which she was truly devoted.

Predeceased by her husband, Edward, Sr. she is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Edward & Mary Ellen DeBiasio, Jr. of Wall and by her daughter and son-in-law, Sandra & Adam F. Natkie of Brick. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Richard Donley and his wife Sharon, Brian & David Natkie, Joanne Ahern and her husband John, and Scott DeBiasio and his wife Nicole; and by her great-grandchildren, Christopher & Nicole Donley and Teagan & Connor Ahern. 🌿

interest in the New York Yankees.

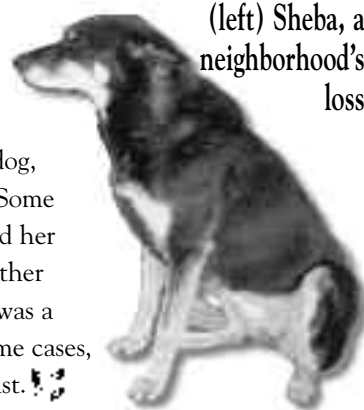
Joe was the son of the late Joe D'onofrio, Sr. and he is survived by his dear mother Lisa "Lily" (Zito), daughter Lisa Donegan, grandson Patrick and granddaughter Sara. In a ceremony attended by his many aunts, uncles and cousins, Boomer's ashes were scattered on the beach at the Surf Club. 🌿

SHEBA SACCO, 16

If there is a dog heaven it won't impress Sheba. Sheba was part of the Sacco family on Third Avenue in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth whose home is attached to their butcher shop. Sheba had literally hundreds of kids greeting her every day and was blessed by the priests of St Anthony's.

Sheba retired from the Post Office as escort to John the Mailman. She tracked his every step for years. She lived cater-cornered from St. Anthony's Church and Grammar School and was the official greeter for students on their way to school and parishioners on their way to mass. Sheba's owners, John and Doreen Sacco, referred to her as "The Mother Dog" because she would intently look out for the safety of the kids in the neighborhood. She patrolled her area of Third Avenue like a beat cop and she made sure seniors and kids crossed the street safely.

Sheba was a gentle dog, loyal and affectionate. Some people actually preferred her company over that of other humans. She certainly was a good listener and in some cases, a better conversationalist. 🌿



(left) Sheba, a neighborhood's loss

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(above) The house where Carla's grandfather, Jim Sacco, was born 1918 in Castanga, Calabria



(above) John, seated 5th from right, visited with his cousins in Nicastro, Calabria. Sitting next to John is his aunt, Zia Giovita, who passed away one week after John's return to America. She was the last of her generation of Sacco's.



(above, l- clockwise) Enjoying Sunday lunch with John, Ali, Carlo, Serafino, Antonella, Natalie, Chichina, Vincenzo, John, and Carla. Check out the copacola!

MY FIRST TRIP TO ITALY

Submitted by Carla J. Sacco

Seeing Italy for the first time was an experience that I will never forget. It was a place that was talked about many times in the Sacco household. Whether it was stories from my grandfather or my parents on their honeymoon it was a place that I dreamed of going. I never would have gone alone and I am fortunate to have gone with my family this past July.

We started in Milan and visited family and ended the journey in Rome, but the true experience of being in Italy was in Castanga, Calabria, it was like a home away from home. This was the town my grandfather was born in and my dad still has lots of cousins there.

Our dad was like having our own tour guide driving up and down mountain roads showing us different sites and being able to spot a garden of string beans a mountain away! It's definitely out of a movie and almost didn't seem real. I still have a hard time believing that I was finally there.

Meeting family members that I heard so many stories about was an experience in itself. They open their doors and their hearts to you, it's overwhelm at times. They live simple lives and give the best of what they have to you. Every vegetable, fruit or flower is hand picked from their garden's, every glass of cold water you drink comes straight from the mountain. The flavors of their food are like nowhere else on earth.

We attended mass at Church of the Holy Spirit, a church that was 140 years old. The church is where my grandparents were married in 1946. The priest made an announcement of us being there and after the mass all the old timers came up to us to talk about my grandparents. It was like something out of a storybook.

My father was the official interpreter but by the end of the trip we were all having dreams in Italian. My sister and dad spoke Italian, my mom understood it and my brother and I are going for lessons before we go back! These are just some of the places that make Italy what it is, a beautiful historic country. At the end of the vacation my parents asked would I ever go back? My answer is yes "Griswold's do Italy 2008!" 🇮🇹



(above, l-r) Milan at Il Domo, Federica, Terazina, Ali, Penooch, John, Carla, John (Kneeling) Antonella.

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SCENES FROM CALABRIA



(above) The streets are empty at lunchtime in Carlopoli, Calabria.



(right, l-r) Carla, John, Doreen and Alessandra draw water from a well just as the residents of Castanga, Calabria still do.



(above, l-r) Doreen, John, Carla, John and Ali standing at the altar of Church of the Holy Spirit where John's parents were married.



(above) Motorists must wait for the sheep to cross the roads before proceeding in the countryside of Sila, Calabria.



(above, l-r) Alessandra and her dad check out a wood burning stove in a back yard in Castanga.



(left) John standing in the ruins of a 1000 year old monastery in Castanga, Calabria.



(left) The June 06 issue of *Around About Peterstown* newspaper, in the hands of Doreen Sacco, finds its way into Vatican City.

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PETERSTOWN IS ITS OWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

One of the main strengths of being from Peterstown is the loyalty that the people show to one another. Much like a Yale alumnus hires Yale graduates, people from Peterstown have a tendency to do business with each other. There are many reasons for this, and they benefit both the business person and the customer.

The community is so tight knit that everyone was brought up being influenced by a value system with very high standards. Honesty in business was one of them. Fairness was preached and practiced by employer and employee. The customer was held in the highest regard. Years ago, when society was less mobile, it didn't serve merchants well to rip off their customers who were also their neighbors. Needless to say they wouldn't be in business too long, or have many friends left in the neighborhood.

The early merchants and tradesmen and laborers took pride in their work because it was a reflection of their character. The concept of doing the best you can was inherent in the life lessons past down from parent to child. If someone did not act honorable in business the news would spread pretty quickly since everyone was closely associated with each other personally, socially and professionally.

Even though they are a few generations removed and

geographically spread out the kinship between folks rooted in Peterstown is still strong. So it is not out of the ordinary for them to seek each other out when the need comes up for professional services, merchandise, construction or a great place to eat. This is one reason why *Around About Peterstown* is so successful. The readers and advertisers are all part of the same family.

The business owners in the newspaper value the loyalty the readers extend to them and the readers trust that they will be treated fairly and with respect . . . or they will call the owner's grandmother and tell her all about it. 🐦

Not for Nothing But...

I judge a business by
the customers it keeps.

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NEW BUSINESSES ABOUND . . .

Four entrepreneurs, with roots to Peterstown, have ventured into new and renewed businesses. 🐾

E-Town cafe

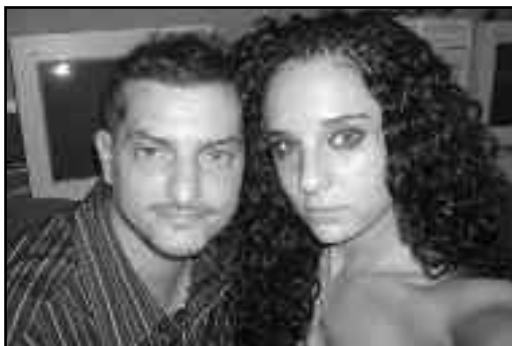
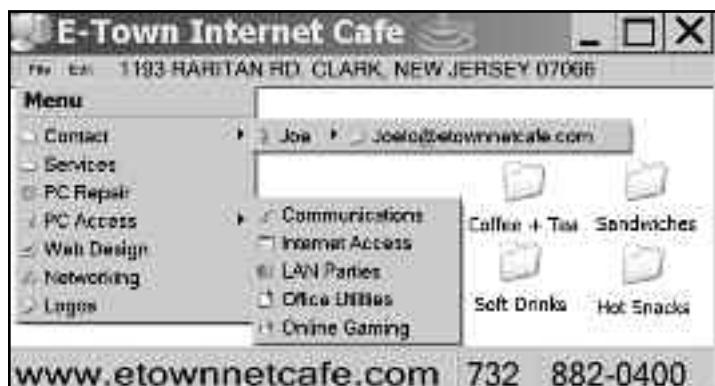
In September 2005, Joe Lo Guidice opened an internet cafe on Raritan Road in Clark. The hip little store front features 15 terminals for customers to use to access the internet. The cafe is also host to on line gaming "clans". The cafe serves hot and cold drinks and

snacks and has become very popular with the E-Generation*.

E-town offers an entire array of computer services form web design to computer repairs. Log on to www.etownnetcafe.com to find out more. 🐾

* The term E-Generation used here first!

(below) The back side of E-Town Business card cleverly lists the services offered.



(above, l-r) E-Town cafe's owner Joe Lo Guidice and manage June Velazquez.

"You've Got Mail" - at Havco

HAVCO Printing & Design has been in business for more then 15 years. It is owned and operated by Javier Colon, A resident of Elizabeth, NJ for 49 years. He's been delivering design and printing services with skills he started to obtain in shop class at Elizabeth's Edison Tech High School as a member of the class of 1975.

He is expanding his business to include secure mailboxes, shipping, delivery, and better postal services to the community. The new service named HAVCO Mailboxes will fill a void that Javier noticed existed.

After conversations with his customers and people in

the community, Javier sensed that the U.S. Post Office was falling short of meeting everyone's needs. With no other mailbox service in town, Javier developed one as part of his business.

Javier was surprised to find that a big city like Elizabeth was under served since the service is prevalent in the suburbs. He anticipates the big growth spurt once word of mouth spreads. Being a multi-lingual service is a key component to his future success. It's an aspect of his business that the Postal Service does not always deliver. 🐾

The Animal Farm

Lou Oliveri has opened The Animal Farm Pet Shop on Elizabeth Avenue in Elizabeth, NJ, featuring dog grooming and training. The shop is also well stocked with a variety of animals, fish, birds and accessories. Louie has gone the extra mile in giving pet owners what they need. The Animal Farm caters to canary culturists and has a veterinarian who visits on a weekly basis.

Lou is a lifelong Peterstown resident and still lives on Fourth Avenue, just a short walk to his pet shop. Reminiscent of the way merchants used to be. 🐾



(above) Michele (Stango) Monaco is all smiles posing for a photo on a pony, which was customary in Peterstown, outside her grandpa Malgieri's house on Fourth Avenue and Niles Street when she was four years old.

The Guilded Lillie

Michele Monaco, aka "Emma" has recently opened the Gilded Lillie on Poplar Street in Rahway. The downtown building was the old home of the Parking Authority. Michelle, along with her partner Jack Barry, have operated the Auction House on Main Street for the past ten years. The move to the new location was necessitated by redevelopment.

Jack and Emma have been in the auction / antique / estate sale business over thirty years. They continue to hold regular auctions every Saturday night at 6:00 pm in the Robinson Building on Main Street in Rahway. The auction, which features new and estate items, is quite a fun and rewarding experience. First timers are easily hooked into returning.

Besides selling antiques out of their shop Jack and Emma are very active assisting clients with Ebay services, estate sales, tag sales and house clean outs. 🐾



(above, l-r) Vilma Pietri gets help signing up for her Havco mailbox from Mariela Amado and Javier Colon.

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PETERSTOWN ERUPTS AS ITALY WINS WORLD CUP

Peterstown erupted in a celebration after Italy won its fourth 2006 World Cup beating France 5-3 in a penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 draw in Berlin. The tournament was exciting but would probably will be remembered most for the bizzare head butt France's Zinedine Zidane gave Marco Materazzi.

The celebration started after the game about 4:30 pm and lasted into the evening. Groups of fans paraded from the venues where they watched the game to the corner of Third Avenue and John Street. A caravan of vehicles twenty long snaked around Elizabeth whooping it up. Third Avenue was transformed into party hall complete with food, drink, DJ and dancing, while fireworks lit the evening sky.

(next six pages) Photos taken by Joe Vitabile and Joe Renna of the hundreds of people who were on hand. Color photographs can be found on the internet at

www.LocalSource.com

Click on photo reprints

Photos are also available for purchase.





Forza Italia

2006 World Cup



za ia Champions

Photos of Peterstown
celebration taken by
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15
Peterstown
Aug 06





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Elizabeth M. Bello earned Honor Roll Status at Bloomsbury Elementary School. Ms. Bello, 13, had the highest graduating GPA of 94.1 while actively involved in various clubs such as Studio Arts, Student Council, White Rose Kids, Chess Club, Drama Club, and was the Bloomsbury Super Student of the Month for January 2005. She has consistently maintained honor roll status all marking periods through sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Elizabeth takes piano lessons, designs and makes her own jewelry, and volunteers at the local firehouse breakfasts, school functions, her community church, and has volunteered several times at Safe Harbor Soup Kitchen in Easton, PA, where she and her friend Samantha served food and brought both purchased and home-made gifts to the residents where free time was spent with them.

She was a participant in the annual Bloomsbury Women's Auxiliary Fashion Show for two years and has been a dedicated performer in the annual Bloomsbury Elementary School Variety Show, as well as had the lead role in her school's first Drama Club production, Peter Pan. Recently, she played The Queen of Hearts in the school production of Alice in Wonderland. Last year Ms. Bello received acknowledgement for submitting an original song to the WOR Radio 710 AM Shining Star Talent Search. Ms. Bello was also designated to sing the National Anthem at the Bloomsbury Centennial Celebration/Parade last September. In addition, she was selected as one of the Hunterdon County Distinguished Students of 2006 where she was honored at an awards dinner at Voorhees High School on May 11th.

As in past years, this summer she is employed by the Bloomsbury Summer Recreation Committee as an Aide

as well as maintains various local babysitting positions.

Richard C. Bello graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Business Administration with concentrations in Marketing and Sport Management from Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ.

Bello earned a place on the Dean's List for all four years as a Stillman School of Business student at SHU. He was an active member of the Dean's Advisory Committee, and also served as Treasurer for the Sport Management Student Association. He was involved with the success of both the SMSA Blood Drive as well as the annual Stillman School of Business Formals. Bello had the highest graduating GPA in Sport Management earning him the 2006 Sport Management Academic Citation.

Bello was the recipient of a John Deehan scholarship award all four years and was featured in the Student Spotlight section of the Fall 2004 issue of Seton Hall University Magazine.

He maintained a 3.958 GPA while taking 18 credits each semester, working part time for the Director of Sport Management, The NJ Nets/Baja Fresh, and The NY Giants. He has begun a career as an Account Manager with The New Jersey Devils, National Hockey League.

Elizabeth and Richard are the children of, extremely proud parents, Rich and Vita Bello of Bloomsbury, NJ, formerly of Elizabeth, great niece of the late Robert DeVito of Elizabeth, granddaughter of Carmine and Michelina Crincoli of Toms River. 🐾



(above) Seton Hall University Graduate Rich Bello.

(right) Bloomsbury Elementary School Graduate Elizabeth Bello



19
Peterstown
Aug 06

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my resume in eighth

grade included clapping

erasers and never

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(above) Leo Tangarife handles lobsters lifted from their tank that is part of a 30 foot display case full of fresh and prepared seafood.

(right) Mario's South is located in Toms River at 1747 Hooper Avenue, in Anchorage Square at the crossroad of South Shore Drive, behind the 7-11. It was the long time home of the very popular, Berkeley Seafood, whose signage has been replace with a new one bearing the new name.

MARIO'S OPENS UP IN PETERSTOWN SOUTH

A longstanding topic for comedians has been the inevitable move of senior citizens from New York City to Florida. New Jersey can retread those old jokes citing the number of seniors living in Toms River, NJ that originated from Elizabeth. The trend is not limited to seniors living in age restricted communities. There are plenty of young families from Elizabeth and its surrounding towns also living off Exit 62 of the Parkway.



Another comedic routine centers on how bad the food is when you leave a metropolitan area. This cliché which is true elsewhere has been busted when it comes to Toms River since Mario's Trattoria in Union, NJ opened up on Hooper Avenue.

Mario's, located on Chestnut Street in Union, has been a favorite restaurant and lounge for many of the Toms Riverians when they lived up in Union County. John Garofalo answered the call of his customers from the south and brought the excellent Italian recipes to the masses.

Mario's up north has been a hot spot for generations, offering entertainment seven nights a week. John has his sons running the shows now. Brian is the owner and manager of Mario's South and can tell when a customer is rooted from the north. They tend to have a yearning the spicier dishes featuring Italian delicacies.

Mario's South does not have a bar so patrons are invited to bring their own liquor. What it does have, is a deli for eating in and taking out, fresh seafood from the ocean or prepared. There is also seating for in the deli.

The restaurant is cozy and comfortable and the menu is beyond the basics. Daily specials really become elaborate. Its the perfect place for anyone who is feeling homesick for meals like mom used to make. 🍴🍷

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Recipies

Submitted by Mario's South, Toms River, NJ

Red Snapper Brodetta

INGREDIENTS

10 oz Filet of Red Snapper (skin removed)	6 Capers
3 Littleneck Clams	Fresh Basil
3 Mussels	Fresh Parsley
1/2 Boiled Potato Chopped in 1/2inch pieces (skin on)	Oregano
6 Black Olives	2 oz Blended Oil
Crushed Red Hot Pepper	Teaspoon Butter
1/2 White Onion Diced	2 Cloves Diced Garlic
	4 oz Chicken Stock
	4 oz White Wine

PREPARATION:

- 1) Heat 2 oz oil in sauté pan.
- 2) Add snapper, clams and mussels and sauté for 1 minute.
- 3) Add garlic, chicken stock, white wine, 4 leaves of basil, large pinch of parsley chopped, large pinch of oregano, potato, olive, capers, onion and butter. Add crushed red pepper to taste.
- 4) Cover pot. Cook over low flame for 6-8 minutes or until fish is tender to touch.
- 5) May be served over a bed of angel hair pasta or on a platter with rice and vegetables.

Scallops Antonio

INGREDIENTS

8 oz Sea Scallops	6 oz Chicken Stock
2 Diced Plum Tomatoes	1-Tablespoon Butter
5 Medium Mushrooms Sliced	2 Cloves Diced Garlic
1/4 Cup Diced White Onion	Fresh Basil
6 oz Linguini	Fresh Parsley
1/2 Cut White Wine	2 oz Blended Oil

PREPARATION:

- 1) Heat 2 oz oil in a sauté pan
- 2) Add scallops, tomatoes, onion, mushrooms and garlic and sauté for approximately 5 minutes
- 3) Deglaze pan with 6 oz of white wine and 6 oz of chicken stock
- 4) Add a heavy pinch of chopped fresh parsley and 4 fresh basil leaves
- 5) Reduce on a low flame for approximately 5 minutes
- 6) Serve over linguini

(right, l-r) Mario's South's chef Richard Margolin and owner Brian Garofalo



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(above) Carmella Zennario, carrying daughter Columbia, holds the hands of daughter Genneville, while husband John stands by their side.

MINNIE MELLAGE'S CORNER STORE REMEMBERED

Philomena "Minnie" Melage, nee Zennario, passed away peacefully on June 26, 2006. She was a 94 year old widow and a long time resident of Elizabeth. She and her late husband Ed, who passed away in 1993, owned a "corner store" in Elizabeth from the 1940's until they retired in 1973 to Monroe Township, NJ.

It was know as "Ed's Confectionery" store. Built in 1929, the store was located on the corner of Rankin St. and First Ave. across from Cleveland Junior High school. Prior to Minnie and Ed running the store, her brother Mike took charge from their parents, John and Carmella Zennario.



The original name was "The Blue Comet Tavern", named after the one of the trains that used the old railroad line that ran along Baltic Street, which was demolished to make way for what is now the Turnpike.

Mike, an ex-boxer who was

(left) John Zennario in his later days, outside his corner store.

fond of all sports, built another store on the open lot adjacent to the corner property. He operated a Zennario's Sport Shop until he turned the reigns over to his friend Red Flagger who renamed the store "Red's Tackle Shop".

Those were the days before supermarkets and super Walmarks, when the life blood of a neighborhood was the corner store. Those were the days of 10¢ ice cream cones, 21¢ packs of Lucky's, and penny candy.

Those were also the days before credit and debit cards. Ed used a hand written note book to keep track of credit purchases which were always paid when the neighborhood men received their paychecks at the end of the week. If someone ran out of an item and the store was closed they simply knocked on the apartment window behind the store and Ed opened the store for them.

Minnie was one of eight children. Her siblings Leonard, Mike, Columbia, Gennivive, Nancy and Frank are deceased. She is survived by her sister, Michelina, who still lives in the home her grandfather built seventy seven years ago.

Ed and Minnie Melage had two sons, Ed Jr. and Frank. Ed still lives in Elizabeth and Frank lives in Raleigh, North Carolina. ✚✚



(above, seated, l-r) Minnie and Ed Melage celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren. (l-r) Kathy, Angela, Frank, Bryant, Kelly, Susan, Bonnie, Edward W. and Edward H.



(above, l-r) Elvira and Gloria Serra play next to an ice truck on First Avenue between Rankin and Atlantic Streets, circa 1930. Their home is the house on the left, #406, owned by Their parents Anna and Ben Serra. The first floor housed a shoe maker's shop. The next house, #408, was owned by the Cautillo family. The empty lot, #410 and the house to the right belonged to John and Carmella Zennario.

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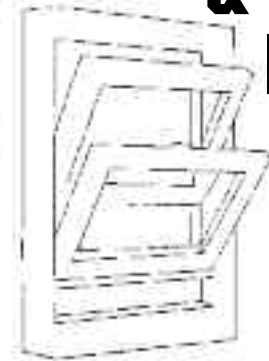
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ED'S CONFECTIONERY WAS PART OF GOING TO CLEVELAND JR. HIGH

Over the years, Frank Imbriacco has continually shared his recollections of growing up on First Avenue, going to Grover Cleveland Jr. High School and playing in its playground. Two months ago, in June 2006, he sent an old photo of the corner store that served the community. The corner store which he remembers as Ed's Confectionery was owned by Minnie and Ed Mellage. Coincidentally, Minnie passed away the same month that he found the photo. Many Cleveland students and neighborhood youth remember Minnie for she was a part their daily lives.

Cleveland boasted about 1,000 seventh, eighth and ninth grader students, the largest school in Elizabeth in its day. Frank noted that the school had many academic programs but also carried many after school activities including football, volleyball, track, softball, swimming, table tennis, badminton and basketball. The building had two gymnasiums, one for girls and one for boys.

Frank lived a block away from the school at 406 First Avenue. Most of his school nights and his summers were spent playing in Cleveland's school yard. Ed and Minnie's corner store was like a toy box. It had everything a kid would need to be a kid. Besides candy, picture cards and soda pop the store had an endless supply of sponge balls "Pinkies" for stick ball.

Corner stores served as a catch-all of a neighborhood activity. They were social centers where people congregated, they were the supply posts for the day to day needs of neighborhood families and in the case of Ed's it supplied a huge student body with the things it needed to complete a class project, no matter how unusual.

For over 40 years, Ed's was a family run business. So Minnie and Ed grew up with their adult customers and knew each kid who came in the store from birth. They minded the store and made sure the youngsters minded their Ps and Qs. 🍭

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(above) Zennario's Sport Shop and Ed's Confectionery on the corner of First Avenue and Rankin Street, with a view of Cleveland Junior High School in the background.



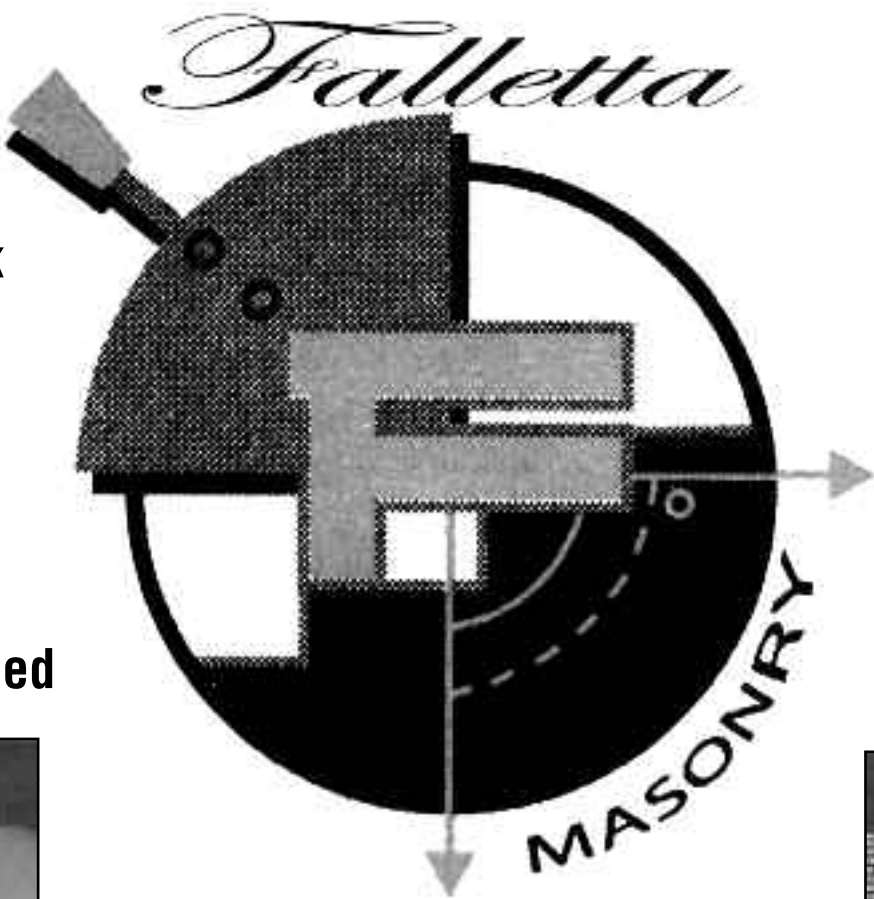
(above, boys, alphabetical) Frank Imbriacco and his 1958 home room class, 9-230, Richard Bonacci, Thomas Fee, Matthew Gervase, John Giabbanis, William Kearnes, Gerald Lisnock, James Okpych, Joseph Sheppard, Richard Snarski, Bernard Stagniunas, Vincent Tropeano and Frank Wysocki (girls, alphabetical) Barbara Aladit, Florence Borek, Christine Brozick, Patricia Fuchs, Barbara Gallaso, Marianne Martin, Dolores Moreno, Carol Nadaskay, Barbara Saxere, Maria Termini, Teresa Urbanik, Ann Ven Graitis and Mary Ann Wozniak.

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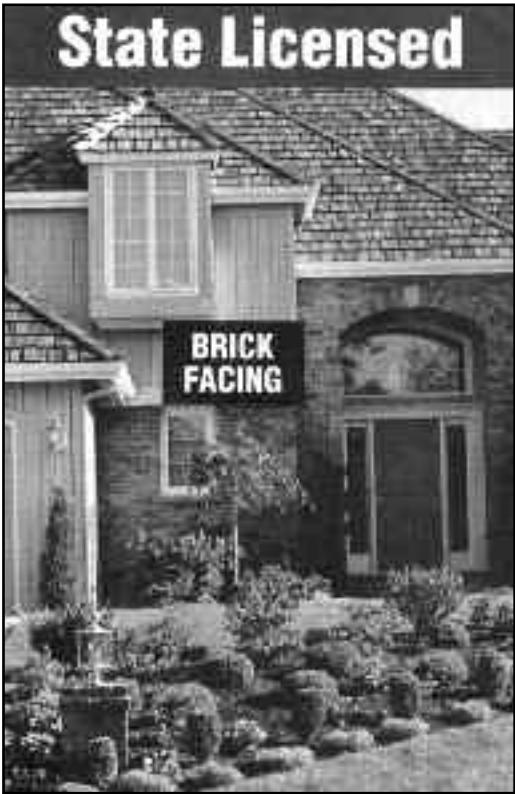
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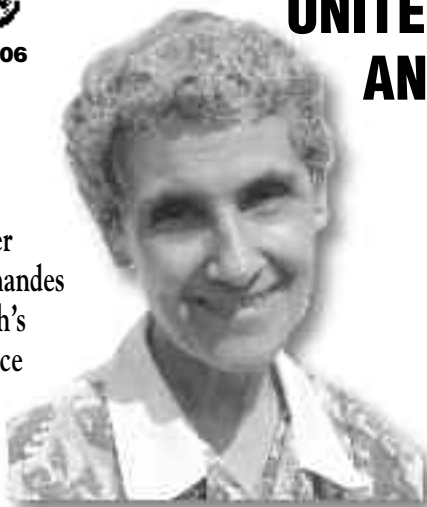
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UNITED WAY TO HONOR ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER AND SISTER JACINTA FERNANDES AT 2006 CELEBRATION

(right) Sister
 Jacinta Fernandes
 of St. Joseph's
 Social Service
 Center



United Way of Greater Union County has announced that the organization will officially honor the work of St. Joseph's Social Service Center and Sister Jacinta Fernandes during United Way's 2006 Celebration event.

United Way's 2006 Celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, and will be held at the Schering-Plough Corporation in Kenilworth, New Jersey, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. The cost is \$40 per person and includes a buffet dinner, wine, beer and soft drinks. To attend or to help sponsor this exciting event, please call (908) 353-7171.

Sister Fernandez will be in attendance to accept United Way's 2nd Annual Dell Raudelunas Spirit of Caring Award. The award is named in memory of Dolores (Dell) Raudelunas who served as United Way of Greater Union County's Chief Executive Officer from 1969-2000. Last year, this prestigious award was presented to the late Ann Baran, who was a longtime United Way volunteer throughout her professional career and while she served as County Manager.

St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth is a multi-service program that provides counseling, job training, food, clothing, medication and other necessities to the poor and homeless. Since 1983, St. Joseph's Social Service Center has worked closely with its partner organization, the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, to provide long-term solutions for working poor families, such as affordable housing.

"Every day, St. Joseph's Social Service Center plays a critical role in supporting the needs of our community's poor and homeless," said Lockhart. "Their ongoing partnership with the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless has woven a secure safety net for the most

vulnerable members of our community." In the early 1980s, Sister Fernandes helped found Our Lady of Fatima's Social Service Center, which later became St. Joseph's Social Service Center. She is widely recognized throughout New Jersey for her tireless work as an advocate for the homeless and those in need. "Sister Jacinta is a leader in caring throughout Union County, and she serves as a shining example of what it means to be committed to improving the lives of our neighbors in need," said Larry J. Lockhart, President of the Board of United Way of Greater Union County. "She has been the driving force that has inspired thousands of local people to put their faith and good will into action to help others."

FREE JOB TRAINING

Project Ready will be accepting applications for its fall job preparedness program on Friday, September 8 at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

Applicants should be prepared to stay for 2 hours. The free 6 week program will begin the following Monday at 9:00 am. 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 at 118 Division St. in Elizabeth. For more information please call (908)353-1045 or visit www.projectready.org.

ABOUT UNITED WAY OF GREATER UNION COUNTY

Since 1969, United Way of Greater Union County has been developing and supporting programs that improve the lives of local children and youth, seniors, people with disabilities and families in crisis. United Way's Born Learning initiatives are focused on enhancing the quality of local childcare centers to ensure children are well prepared to learn and succeed in school and in life. United Way's 2-1-1 helpline also supports thousands of local families by connecting callers with community resources that can help answer their human service needs. For more information or to support United Way of Greater Union County, please call (908) 353-7171 or visit www.uwguc.org.



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LINDEN ESTABLISHES ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The City of Linden Hall of Fame Committee will kick off their inaugural year with a breakfast in the fall, fundraisers and meetings and culminating with an awards induction dinner planned for April, 2007.

The organization is meeting on September 27, 2006 at Nuno Restaurant on Roselle Street at 8:00 am. The meeting will serve to introduce the organization to the press and public. The purpose of the Committee is to formally recognize outstanding male and female athletes, coaches, teams and other individuals who have contributed to the athletic, academic or civic success of the Linden community.

The committee will also be reaching out to the community for individuals who would like to be involved in their mission. Any one interested can contact Linden's Department of Recreation at 908-474-8600.



(right) Linden Athletic Hall of Fame Committee Chairman, Emanuel P. Riggi, presents a plaque of appreciation to Bill Oplinger, President of the Linden Men's Metro Fast Pitch Softball League for their donation that will fund the Hall's Kurt M. Wolf Scholarship Fund.

(l-r) Walter Martin, Hall of Fame Treasurer; Alfred A. Volpe, Hall of Fame Vice Chairman; Chairman Riggi; President, Oplinger; Lt.. Ed Kusher, Linden Recreation; and Gary Luciano, Hall of Fame Secretary.

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The world is changing; everyday it appears that something dramatic is happening in the world and in the state of New Jersey.

This week we have seen a new war begin between Israel and Lebanon. Simultaneously wars still rage on in Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan and Angola. Terrorists have struck in India once again and two plots were stopped one in Canada and one in Miami Florida where they were intending to bomb the NY tunnels and kidnap the Prime Minister of Canada and behead him publicly.

Oil prices have risen and the price of gas has followed. I have seen the cost of gas double on my personal consumption within the last month and a half. The cost of electricity and heating has also risen.

The stock market has been tumbling every single day and the FEDS continue to raise interest rates. In the state of New Jersey we had a financial crisis where state government was closed down for approximate one week. This resulted in a compromise at the expense of NJ residents that once again we will pay additional taxes. This time 1% more on sales tax to minimize the effect. Our generous elected officials did not call it 1%, but merely a penny. Maybe I am crazy but when was the last time you bought anything for a dollar.

When I was a child and a teenager the state of New Jersey had no sales tax and no income tax and the state functioned fine. Property taxes were relatively cheap. In the City of Newark, where I grew up, we had street sweepers, recreation for the children, playgrounds that remained open 365 days a year and water fountains on the street. The sanitation department not only collected the garbage, but also brought the garbage cans from the

rear of the property to the front so that there would be no garbage in front of your home from twilight on. This was done for every homeowner. There was bulk collection and all garbage collections were conducted prior to 7 am. There was no separate sewer bill; it was part of the water bill.

In today's world our property taxes continue to rise. In most municipalities they now charge you for water and sewer separately. Many municipalities no longer collect garbage. You must pay a private vendor. There are no street sweepers and recreation hours are limited.

The fact is that in New Jersey we pay more now and get less. State government expects residents to sit back and merely accept the fact that they cannot live within their means. I would recommend to our property homeowners in New Jersey to vote out anyone who voted to raise the sales tax.

The question becomes "Why am I discussing taxes, world events and oil with our readers?" Because they all have a direct effect on real estate values. When our residents are focused on world events. They are less likely to buy real estate. When oil prices continue to rise buyers have less money in their pockets to buy property when interest rates rise they must pay more on mortgage payments then they did before. When services provided by municipalities are passed on to taxpayer's, buyers are less likely to buy in New Jersey. Many of our readers that I have spoken to have considered moving to Pennsylvania, Delaware and even to upstate New York where property taxes are lower. They say you get more for your bucks! 🍷

Submitted by Justino Rosa

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