



## 125 YEARS OF FAITH IN ACTION

The Knights of Columbus is celebrating the 125th anniversary of being chartered. It has grown to be the largest lay Catholic organization in the world and is still true to its founding principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. Life magazine reported that the Pope described the Knights as “the right lay arm of the Catholic Church.”

There are over 1.7 million members worldwide in an organization that started with a few parishioners of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut through the efforts of assistant pastor Father Michael J. McGivney. The move was in response to the poverty, ethnic and religious discrimination, poor working conditions and inadequate medical treatment that the emerging immigration population was facing.

The Knights of Columbus formed to assist members and their families using mutual aid and assistance programs for the sick, disabled and those who are needy. But its services actually extend beyond its members and into the local communities of each chapter. Social and intellectual fellowship is also promoted through educational, charitable, religious, social welfare, war relief and public relief works.

On a worldwide scale the Knights have been effective advocates and defenders of civil and religious rights for all. The organization has contributed billions of dollars and millions of hours of volunteer service to charity.

The main tenet of the organization is an unambiguous and proud defender of human life in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Order defends human life from the moment of conception until natural death. Its highest priority, dubbed Culture of Life, centers on building an environment where every human life is welcomed, respected and protected by law.

According to the organization's website, kofc.org, there are more than 13,000 councils throughout the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, Poland, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Panama, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, Guatemala, Guam and Spain.

Remarkably, Elizabeth, NJ has four chapters. Chapters wear their council number in their name for identification. The number is also indicative of when their charter was formed. Elizabeth Council #253 is the city's oldest. Formed in 1897 it is celebrating its 110 year anniversary. The Rev. Dean Martin Gessner Council #3310 was instituted in 1950, while the two newest chapters, St. Mary of the Assumption, Elizabeth Spanish Council #11213 and Our Lady of Fatima Council #11798, are ten and twelve years old respectively.

A council is usually associated with a nearby Catholic Church. Council #3310 works closely with St Anthony's Church located in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth as well as St. Patrick's located in the Port area of the city. The council is named for Rev. Dean Martin Gessner, pastor of St. Patrick's Church who did great work for the people of the port area at the turn of the twentieth century. Council 253 is closely associated with St. Genevieve Church in the Elmora section of the city, Council #11213 with St. Mary's located in Bayway and Council # 11798 with Our Lady of Fatima on Rts. 1&9 towards the North End.



(above) This monument sits in front of Council #253's clubhouse. Gravestones for those whose right to life was denied by abortion are erected by many councils reflecting the organization's pro-life commitment.

All councils work at various charitable, community and church-related activities though volunteering and financial support. The Knights fill special requests from Catholic churches and responds to urgent needs from the national community. For instance, the Knights of Columbus charities raised \$5.5 million for victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, with 100% of the money donated going towards aid. The Supreme Council paid all administration costs.

Though they are part of an international organization, most of their work is done locally. Council #3310 has annual programs such as their fund drives for “special needs” individuals, Shield Award presentations honoring a city police officer, firefighter and EMT, and a student scholarship award.

The work they do is felt in the communities they live in. There is an extra special feeling when the benefits of the charitable actions can be witnessed first hand.

(left) Sir Knight Julio Sanchez, Sir Knight Nick Mancini, Sir Knight Mel Shea, and Sir Knight John Mariano are members of the Knight of Columbus who have reached the status of Fourth Degree. This also enables them to become part of the assembly's color corps which regularly takes part in civic events such as parades and wreath-laying ceremonies, and at ecclesial functions at Catholic churches.



# Around About Peterstown

ELIZABETH NJ

Dec 07

*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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## President's Message



I can't tell you how many times throughout the year I hear regrets from people that they missed our Super Bowl Party. Anyone who has gone can tell you that it's the best party of the year. And because the word of mouth is so positive the party has gotten bigger each year.

It's to a point that we now hold it in the cafeteria of St. Anthony's Grammar School. I feel like it's 50 years ago and I'm back in school whooping it up with my friends during rec time. The only difference is that there aren't any nuns around telling us to keep it down.

We get a 100% return rate for those who attend the previous year and welcome new guests every year. The party is famous for its food and its value (only \$25 to get in!). There won't be another issue of this paper until after the Super Bowl to remind you of the party so mark your calendar now.

On behalf of the Sons of Peterstown Sports Club I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.  
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 Joe,

How does one thank a patriot like Luigi Marciante, Jr.?

Your newspaper was a start in thanking Luigi and the hundreds upon hundreds who have joined our military forces voluntarily. I use the word voluntarily because Americans do not recognize or realize that our young Americans, both male and female, who decide on military life in more than 3 decades have done so on their own. Not one who wears a uniform today is a draftee like those in WWII, Korea and Viet Nam.

Knowing that we have freedom commitments in many parts of the world, Afghanistan and Iraq..., they sign on the dotted line, and it's off to training with the knowledge they may be deployed in a "combat zone". The word hero is not strong enough to praise Luigi and those who served and continue to serve. I use the word "Patriot" because a Patriot believes in his country and wants to see this country continue to be free.

You are totally right in saying that most Americans sit in the comfort of their homes and do not realize that free nations like the United States are hated for our beliefs. How quickly we forgot the Twin Towers! And what is the Twin Towers now? A place for sightseers to visit. Yet, how many bow their heads and remember all those innocent people who lost their lives for just being Americans?

How I remember as a young kid in Peterstown all those called to fight in WWII. Nowhere will you find any of those drafted ever rebel. Sure they were afraid, but they answered the call and hundreds of thousands of lives were lost and America remained free. The same happened during the Korean conflict.

I thank you as a fellow American for stating how you feel. How many will wake up to reality from reading your opinion or the front page of the newspaper? If only a few wake up to this reality, and they change their attitude about their freedom here in the United States.

I am sending this letter to honor Luigi and the love he had for this country, as do I.

Thanks,  
John Monaco  
Scotch Plains, NJ

Dear Joe,

Please send your paper to my son & family. His name is Pasquale Sorce. Pat went to St. Anthony's School together with my older son Joe and my daughter Lucille. We lived next to the DeCesare family on Centre Street. I remember you and all the kids. We moved to Bank Street in 1962. The kids went to St. Anthony's until Joe finished sixth grade. We are related to Manny Caravano and my niece Maria is married to James Palermo.

I knew your mom, Mille, we used to talk outside in front of school waiting for the children to come out. Those were the days. I love getting the paper it brings back a lot of memories. Ask your dad if he remembers my father's uncle Vincent Gargileo who ran the St. Rocco feast years ago. My father, Patsy Turco, used to head the parade. He used to walk in front of the statue.

Well nice talking to you, keep up the great job! Its great to read about the old neighborhood.

God bless,  
Filomena Sorce (Minnie Turco)  
Cape Coral, FL

## 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 Mr Renna,

I just reread the Oct 07 issue of *Around About Peterstown*, number 54, and I am in awe of this paper. It says it all. You see, Stephanie Marciante is my Granddaughter. Thank you so much for telling this all too touching story.

We need to be able to read and re-read the many articles contained within this issue. We just brought Lorenzo Marciante to meet his great-great-grandmother who was unable to come east for Luigi's funeral.

Thank you. Your paper is treasured by our family. It has touched so many hearts. And we need to be able to hold on to the stories it told.

Yours truly and with heartfelt gratitude,  
Rochelle Dublanyk  
Edison, NJ

Hi Joe,

I read your editors opinion about the war and Luigi Marciante. I was moved by your position on the war. More people should feel your way. The lack of support that our military is getting from the left wing media is a disgrace. Hopefully your opinion will reach enough readers to make a difference. Keep up the good work and pray for our military and the safety of this world.

Peter DeVico  
Warren, NJ

Hey Joe,

Hope you are well. Hard to believe it's been 3 years since our 8th grade reunion. I was recently reminiscing about our old neighborhood with my former step-cousins, the Conoshentis. Then I happen upon an a picture you have of Big Tommy Conoshenti in your paper. What a coincidence!

It was great to see that photo, as it is exactly how I remember Tommy. My former step-grandmother, Katherine Wendel, passed away and that's when the family got together. It was a sad occasion, but I was happy to get caught up with the cousins and to see everyone again.

We talked about how much the neighborhood has changed. Our old yard on the corner of S. 5th Street is now another house! There were lots of happy memories.

I met Tommy shortly after he returned from Vietnam, and he used to scare me! He didn't speak much and was always serious — until he got to know you. Then we talked about how much he used to tease me.

Your paper has a sweet, nostalgic feel. I like that.  
All the best to you. Regards,  
Wilhelmina Lydon  
New York, NY

Happy Holidays,

Recently, the Elizabeth Garden Club held a fundraiser at the Scott Hall, Third Presbyterian Church, in Elizabeth, NJ. Chairpersons for this event were Mrs. Marion Mauti and Mrs. Julia Silva. This fundraiser will enable the club to continue on with its annual scholarship award.

The club will also be assembling and distributing sixty gift bags for the Visiting Nurses' Association to distribute to their patients during the holiday season. Club members also make floral arrangements monthly for patients at hospital and care center sites.

Respectfully,  
Patricia A. Corsentino  
Elizabeth, NJ

# SONS OF PETERSTOWN SUPER BOWL PARTY!

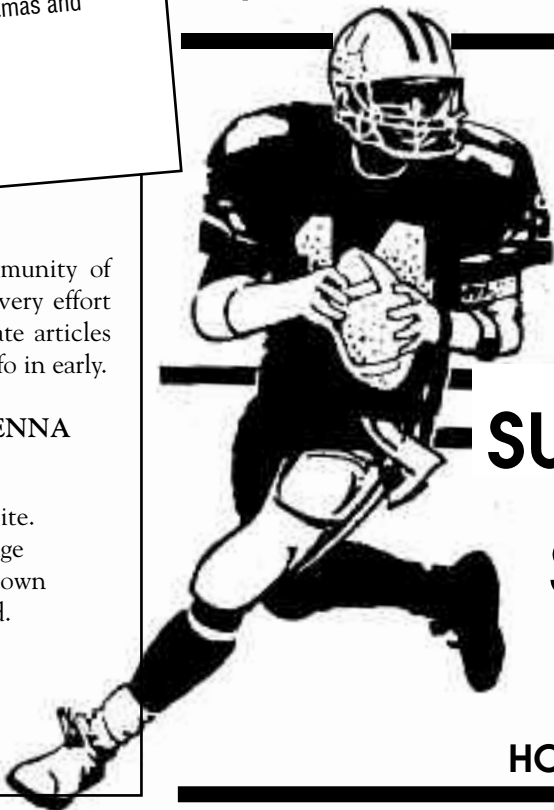
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*everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Renna*

Shopping at Sacco's was a daily part of her life and an important one as well. I knew at a young age that the service was something special. I can't can't count the times my mom found something extra in the bag when

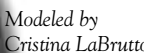
I'd like to congratulate John and his wife Doreen on keeping the store in tact with traditional values, the store is a museum of community service.

\*This may be the first time Buoyancy is used as a verb.

This seems like an insignificant thing to think about but it is one of those things I notice. Maybe because I worked in the market. I'm sure there are things that other people notice that are not on my radar that would seem just as absurd to me. I believe it is these little things that count in life. If some one is dishonest of calculating about something this insignificant then how do they deal with larger issues? I'd rather not find out. 🍷🍷



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# 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.. 📞

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# SUPPORT THE TROOPS IN LUIGI’S HONOR

Since Luigi Marciante’s death in Iraq on September 20, 2007 there has been a continuous effort on the part of many people to honor and memorialize him.

He is being honored by different communities because his ultimate sacrifice as a soldier touched many lives beyond the neighborhood of Peterstown. The entire City of Elizabeth has stepped up to honor Luigi and has named a street in his honor. The Board of Education dedicated the auditorium of Alexander Hamilton Middle School to him, the stage on which Luigi sang as a member of the school chorus. The town of Jackson, where his family presently lives, will also be naming a street in his honor.

Luigi’s death has opened the eyes of many who may not have had a personal experience with someone in the military. He represents thousands of young men and women who are in the same deplorable conditions of

(right, l-r) Hamilton School Principal Frank Cuesta listens as Luigi’s brothers Accursio and Ronnie, his father Luigi and sister Enza gave a heartfelt thank you to everyone who expressed their sympathy, and to the organizations that went above and beyond the call to honor Luigi, especially the City of Elizabeth, during the ceremony dedicating the school auditorium in the name of Luigi Marchiante, Jr.

war. In his memory, Luigi’s family has taken up the cause to help those who are serving. His sister Enza has an email network that spreads information about different support systems that exist. His wife Stephanie has shared a list of Luigi’s military friends to encourage a letter writing campaign (see page 5).

Stephanie, a veteran of the war herself, knows first hand the sacrifices that the soldiers are making. Month after month being away from loved ones and the comforts of home. The longing for home can be as foreboding as the physical danger they face. The sense of isolation is magnified even more during the holidays.

The Marciante family would like everyone to think of our soldiers during the holiday season and reach out to them in some way in memory of Luigi. There are many programs set up in which civilians can show support. Writing a letter is the least of which. 📞



## LORENZO’S FUND

A fund has been set up to help in the upbringing of Luigi’s son, Lorenzo, born just weeks before his death. Anyone interested in making a donation to Lorenzo Anthony Marciante please make checks payable to: Lorenzo Anthony Marciante, Bank of America , c/o Maria Sa Marciante, 1050 Raritan Road, Clark, NJ 07066.

## STREET NAMING CEREMONY IN JACKSON

On Saturday, December 8th the Central Jersey Italian American Club of Jackson formally changing the name of their street (Christopher Columbus Blvd) in honor of Col. Luigi Marchiante, Jr. 📞



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Many people want to show support for our troops overseas and don't know how to go about it. The best and most secure way of sending a note or donation is to go to a website called [www.americasupportsyou.mil](http://www.americasupportsyou.mil). It is linked to the Department of Defense's site, [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil), and contains over 300 links to organizations that have support programs in place.

Some sites are very specific in the service they offer, for instance some groups act as a conduit between supporters and the troops. They maintain a list of soldiers and supplies that are needed and gather donations from supporters and distribute them overseas, there are other groups that take financial contributions for specific applications, and then there are those who facilitate and encourage letter and message writing.

It seems that correspondence is one of the most requested thing by soldiers. One in particular, [www.anysoldier.com](http://www.anysoldier.com), will distribute letters to soldiers who get very little or no mail. This is a fantastic service and is implemented by soldiers who volunteer to receive the mail addressed to them and distribute it. This service is necessary because it is prohibited to mail a letter addressed to "Any Soldier" because of security reasons. A letter must be addressed to a specific service member using their full name, or a specific title, like Commanding Officer, Supply Officer, etc.

The cost for sending the mail overseas to military personnel is the same as regular domestic postage. It is highly recommended that anyone sending letters or packages visit either the support sites or the US Postal service site, [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com), for the regulations. For instance, there are certain things that are prohibited and a customs form is required for all mail weighing 16 ounces or more.

Many friends of Peterstown's fallen hero Luigi Marciante have been asking his sister, Enza, for names and addresses of soldier's from Louie's unit in Iraq. Luigi's wife, Stephanie, supplied Enza with a list of his friends pointing out that Dave and Blake were Louie's closest friends. Stephanie also wants to stress that these are all very special soldiers who loved Louie very much and deserve love and support.

Use the following address to send a card or package replace Soldier's Name with names on the right.

Soldier's Name  
2/23 IN REGT  
FOB NORMANDY  
APO AE 09324

SPC. Sanders, Dave  
SPC. Brandon, Blake  
SGT. Jenkins, Lerrone  
SPC. Fischer, Josh  
SPC. Pieretti, Lawrence  
SGT. Garcia, Jimmy  
SPC. Gonzales, Anthony  
SGT. Tougas, Evan



(above) Ronnie Marciante unveiled the street sign dedicated to his brother Luigi. The sign stands at the corner of Elmora Avenue and Vine Street, where the Marciante family was raised.

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We sincerely regret if this advertisement should reach any home where there is illness or sorrow, as this was certainly not intended.

# BATTIN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1952 REUNION



(above) Fifty four classmates from Battin High School Class of 1952 attended their 55th reunion on October 20, 2007 at the Clarion Hotel on Rt. 27 in Edison, NJ.

## UPCOMING REUNIONS IN 2008

### THOMAS JEFFERSON AND BATTIN HIGH SCHOOLS CLASSES OF '58

A gala 50th class reunion with cocktails, dinner and reminiscing with old friends for the class of 1958 graduates of Thomas Jefferson or Battin High Schools in Elizabeth, NJ is planned for May 3, 2008 at the Galloping Hill Inn, Union, NJ.

If you are a member of either the Jefferson or Battin Class of 1958, call for more information and reservations. Contact Lowell Saferstein, 973-731-5449, Sue Farber Christenson, 908-757-7512, or Charles Brandt, 732-323-8840 email CapinCharlie@msn.com

### ELIZABETH H.S. CLASS OF '78

Reunion Date: Saturday, November 29, 2008  
 Please send us current names & addresses of classmates. E-Mail: EHSClassof78@aol.com or call 908-820-3808.

### ST. ANTHONY'S CLASS OF '62

Jerry Oriscello, Frank Malta and Mike Minitelli are spearheading a 45 year grammar school class reunion and are looking for classmates. If you are one, please call Mike at 908-687-5213 or Frank at 908-355-1176.

### ROSELLE CATHOLIC CLASS OF '78

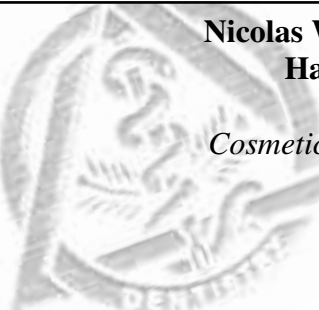
A committee is being formed to plan their 30th reunion. Anyone interested in joining can send an email to joerenna@joerenna.com



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# 1940 FIRST GRADE CLASS FROM SCHOOL #15

Al Triano submitted a photo of his first grade class from Christopher Columbus School #15 located on Third Avenue between Spencer and South 5th Street in Elizabeth, NJ. The school had students from the south half of the Peterstown neighborhood. John Street was the dividing line that determined which school residents would attend. Those living north of John Street spent their formable years attending School #3.

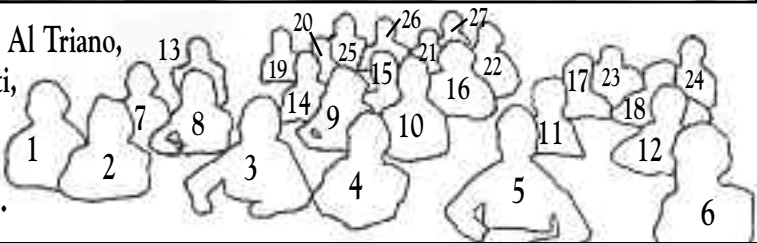
Amazingly, Al was able to name everyone of his classmates, though he had a problem discerning the first names of the four students with the last name of Brown. The photo is pertinent to this issue of this newspaper because Antoinette Lentine and Carmela Accardo were part of Battin High School's class of 1952 which just had its 55th reunion. A photo from the event appears on page 6.

Not for Nothing But...

Al has some memory!



(above, using legend at right) 1. Ronald Tuson, 2. Adele Buschio, 3. Anthony Foti, 4. Angelina Oddo, 5. Al Triano, 6. Margaret Moscaratola, 7. Charles Gallichio, 8. Antoinette Lentine, 9. Carmela Accardo, 10. Philip Foti, 11. M. Kelly, 12. P. Morraco, 13. ? Brown, 14. J. Tavromino, 15. Ida Varricho, 16. T. Puma, 17. Anna Camadecca, 18. John Casale, 19. Margaret Rossano, 20. J. Matanelli, 21. ? Brown, 22. Mike LaFarrala, 23. ? Brown, 24. Robert Calavano, 25. E. Brown, 26. M. DeSalvo, 27. Victor Dadia.



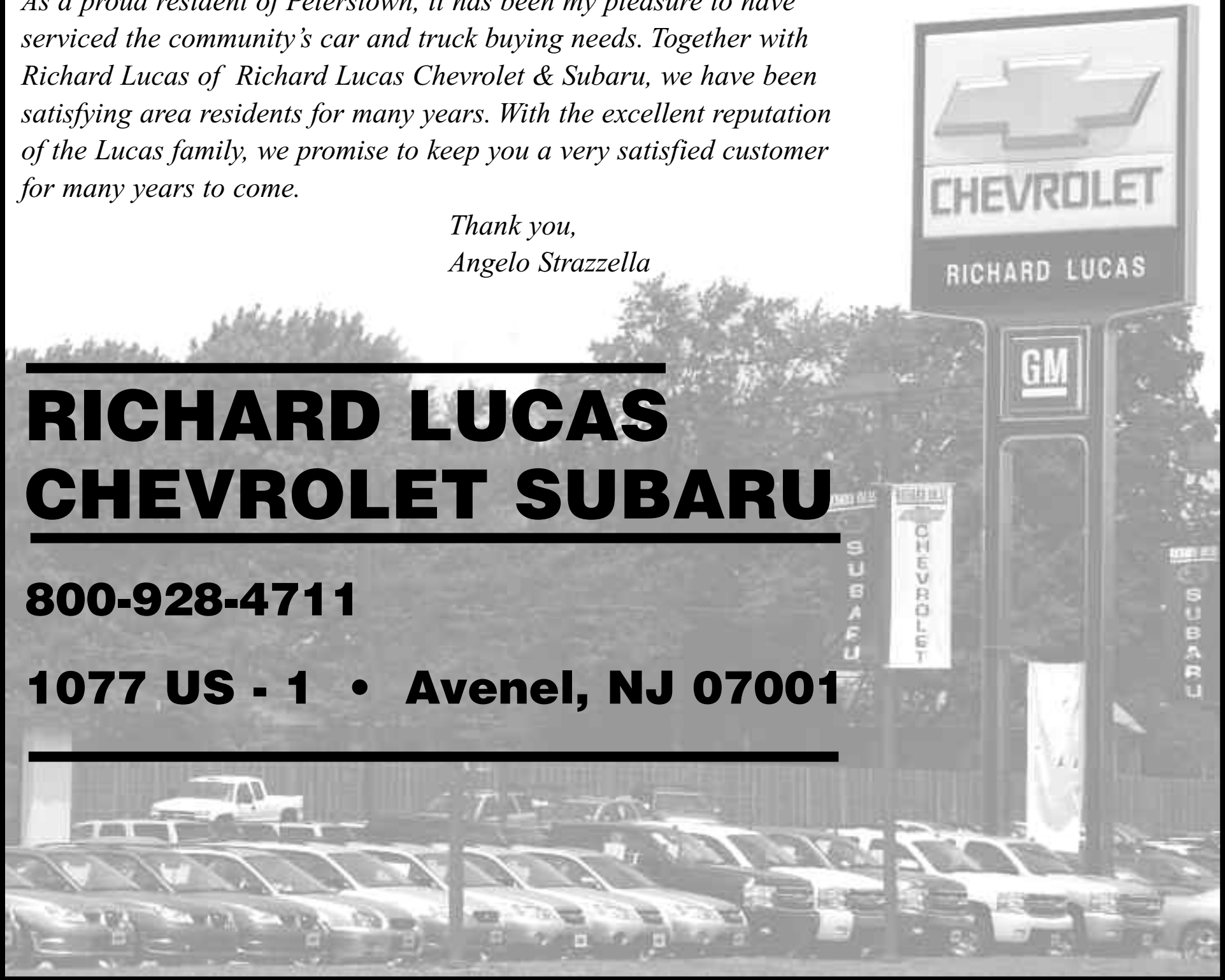
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# GET INVOLVED WITH THE KNIGHTS

The existence of four separate chapters of the Knights of Columbus may have something to do with the number of members in each but there has been a trend of people being less involved than in the past. This is true for many organization and more of a symptom of social growth and mobility than dedication to the cause. The transient nature of modern lifestyles constantly changes the pool of participation. The growing variety of social outlets thins the prospective members even further. The Knights of Columbus are always in search of new members and welcome any inquiries.

(below) This list of Councils was compiled from a search on the State of New Jersey Knights of Columbus website [www.njkofc.org](http://www.njkofc.org)

# WHERE TO JOIN IN UNION COUNTY

**Clark**  
**BISHOP JUSTIN J. McCARTHY #5503**  
Meets: 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
Where: 27 Westfield Ave., Clark  
Phone: 732-574-9067  
Chartered: 02/24/1964

**Cranford**  
**CRANFORD #6226**  
Meets: 3rd Tuesday, 8:00pm  
Where: 37-43 South Avenue, Garwood  
Phone: 908-789-9809  
Chartered: 06/10/1970

**Elizabeth**  
**STA. MARIA DE LA ASUNCION #11213**  
Meets: 1st and 3rd Monday, 8:00pm  
Where: 155 Washington Ave., Elizabeth  
Phone: 908-352-5154  
Chartered: 09/08/1993

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA #11798**  
Meets: 2nd Thursday  
Where: Building across from church near Bond St. 403 Spring St., Elizabeth  
Phone: 908-355-3810  
Chartered: 05/23/1996

**ELIZABETH #253**  
Meets: 1st and 3rd Monday, 8:30pm  
Where: 328 Union Ave., Elizabeth  
Phone: 908-355-2253  
Chartered: 8/1/1897

**REV. DEAN MARTIN GESSNER #3310**  
Meets: 1st Tuesday  
Where: Peterstown Community Center  
408 Palmer St. Elizabeth,  
Chartered: 05/28/1950

**Garwood**  
**MSGR. JOHN M. WALSH #5437**  
Meets: 2nd Wednesday, 8:00 PM  
Where: 37-43 South Avenue, Garwood  
Location: 37 South Ave., Garwood, NJ  
Phone: 908-789-9809  
Chartered: 06/21/1963

**Hillside**  
**REV. THOMAS F. CANTY #3197**  
Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursday, 8:00pm  
Where: 1220 Liberty Ave., Hillside  
Phone: 908-688-3197  
Chartered: 01/30/1949

**Kenilworth**  
**REV. S. P. McVEIGH #4186**  
Meets: 2nd Thursday  
Where: 191 Market St., Kenilworth  
Phone: 908-245-9899  
Chartered: 04/08/1956

**Rahway**  
**RAHWAY #1146**  
Meets: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm  
Where: 80 W. Inman Ave., Rahway  
Phone: 732-680-1146  
Chartered: 07/15/1906

**Roselle**  
**ST. JOSEPH THE CARPENTER #3946**  
Meets: 2nd Tuesday, 8:00 PM  
Where: 112 West First Ave., Roselle  
Phone: 908-241-3946  
Chartered: 01/16/1955

**Roselle Park**  
**MSGR. JOSEPH F. LORETTI #3240**  
Meets: Business: 4th Wednesday Officers:  
2nd Wednesday 8:00 p.m.  
Where: Church Of The Assumption 113 Chiego Place Roselle Park, N.J.  
Phone: 908-245-1107  
Chartered: 11/30/1949

**Scotch Planis**  
**FATHER JOHN S. NELLIGAN #5730**  
Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 8:00pm  
Where: Call First, TBD  
Phone: 908-654-8891  
Chartered: 6/6/65

**Springfield**  
**MSGR. FRANCIS X. COYLE #5560**  
Meets: 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
Where: Old Shunpike Road, Springfield  
Phone: 908-277-3722  
Chartered: 05/06/1964

**Union**  
**UNION #4504**  
Meets: 2nd and 4th Monday  
Where: 1034 Jeanette Ave., Union  
Phone: 908-686-4504  
Chartered: 12/02/1957

**Westfield**  
**MSGR. HENRY J. WATERSON #1711**  
Meets: 1st Wednesday, 8:00pm  
Where: 2400 North Ave., Westfield, NJ  
Phone: 908-232-9767  
Chartered: 11/30/1913

# PART OF ELIZABETH HISTORY

Since 1882, when Council #253 was formed, the Knights of Columbus has been and continues to be a intricate part of the City of Elizabeth. In fact, the last four mayors of the city were members of the Council, Mayors Bollwage, Dunn, Bercik and LaCorte.

Council numbers are given in succession and at 253 it is the sixth oldest council in New Jersey. The council merged with Barley #629, another Elizabeth council, and occupied their property on Union Avenue in 1910. A new Clubhouse was built in 1982. The watershed year for the council was 1961 when membership reached 1200.

Council #253 continues to be very active in supporting Saint Joseph's Social Services Center in Elizabeth and Raphael's House, a home for unwed mothers. The council holds a popular Annual Ball and other fundraises throughout the year including a golf tournament. The council hosts a Flea Market on their clubhouse property every second and third Sunday of each month.

(right) A memorial to members who served in WWI hangs in the 253s clubhouse listing 142 men, five of which died in Service. (below) 100 names have a place of honor on their WWII memorial.



(above) Monument aside flag pole dedicated to vets of Korea and Viet



(above, l-r) Members of the Knights of Columbus Council #253, Past Grand Knight Mike Szotak, Chancellor Joe Homer, Mark Schaad, Grand Knight Joe Colletti, Secretary Sean McDonough, Jim Sinnott, Tim Turley, Columbian Club President Ken Tillotson, Deputy Grand Knight Owen Iungerman.

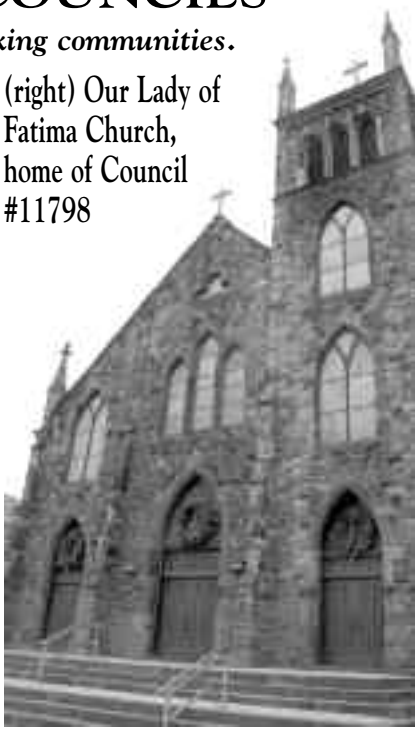
# ELIZABETH'S TWO NEWEST COUNCILS

#11213 and #11798 serve Spanish and Portuguese speaking communities.



(above, l-r) Members of the Knights of Columbus Council #11213, Lester Ricardo, Past Grand Knight Maurilio Lodos, Huberto Leal, Grand Knight Heriberto Orfiz, Chaplin Fr. Estuminio Chila, District Director Emilio Pelaez, Past Grand Knight Oscar Hoyos, Manwel Ochoa.

(right) Our Lady of Fatima Church, home of Council #11798





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# HISTORY OF COUNCIL #3310

The Rev. Dean Martin Gessner Council # 3310 of the Knights of Columbus was instituted in 1950. The new council took its name to honor the late pastor of St. Patrick's Church - Rev. Dean Martin Gessner, who, at the turn of the century, did great work for the people of the port area of Elizabeth.

In the early years, the council held its meetings at the parish halls of Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's. The first grand knight of the council was Tom VanGratis. The council was made up of men of the local area, predominately of German, Irish, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish and Slavic ancestry. The council became a Catholic fraternal melting pot whose purpose then and now is the individual and collective growth in the Christian principles of faith, hope and charity, and in the Knights of Columbus principles of charity, unity and fraternity. Through the years, the council has worked with these principles in mind through a wide and balanced program of activities that included projects and fundraising for various charities, patriotic recognition activities, fraternal support projects, Catholic Church related functions and projects, and social affairs and activities.

In 1953, the council bought and opened their first clubhouse on Atlantic Street. Funds were raised through various fundraising activities, as well as individual donations from the members and their families. The Atlantic Street clubhouse was purchased for \$9,000.00 and sold 17 years later for \$28,000.00.



(above, l-r) Members of the Knights of Columbus Council #3310 Sir Knight Mel Shea, Sir Knight Julio Sanchez, Mike Macierowski, Manny Caravano, Win Ballou, Drew Swider, Grand Knight Pat Cupo, Charles Swider, Tony Barile, Sir Knight Nick Mancini and Sir Knight John Mariano.

In 1970, the council purchased its second home, located on Summer Street. The Summer Street home became a much-loved place for the members and their families, and hosted many of the brother knights' families' weddings, anniversaries, graduations, etc. After a catastrophic fire in March of 1985, the Summer Street

building was torn down and the property sold.

Eventually, the council purchased the old Villa Roma Restaurant site on Lidgerwood Avenue and after some renovations and improvements, enjoyed quite a few years of success at this new site. This site was sold in 1999.

Today, after more than 57 years of existence, while the council can't claim a home of its own, nor can it claim the numbers it once had, it still has an active core group of men who continue to practice the principles of the Order -- charity, unity and fraternity, through its various charitable, community and church-related activities, such as the annual fund drive for "special needs" individuals, Shield Award presentations honoring a city police officer, firefighter and EMT, and many other projects. The council currently meets at the Palmer Street Recreation Center and holds many of its activities at St. Anthony's Parish.



(above, l-r) Knights of Columbus #3310 prepare to march in a St. Anthony Church procession through the streets of Peterstown, circa 1962.

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## J. SACCO MEAT MARKET CELEBRATES 60 YEARS IN BUSINESS

On October 25, 1945 Jim and Rose Sacco opened a corner grocery store to service the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. Rose was so proud of the store that she would not close that first day until the stream of customers stopped. She stayed open well past midnight. Jim's son, John, is now celebrating the store's 60th anniversary with the same commitment to the neighborhood it has always had.

The aspects that made Sacco's special 60 years ago hold true today, quality select meat and service. Sacco's is known for having a great selection of home-made sausage. And it is truly "home-made" because the Sacco's home is behind the shop on 806 Third Avenue. It is a traditional live/work space where Jim raised his four children, Frank, John, Marie and Joe, and where John raised his three, Alessandra, Carla and John. The shop is an extension of his home and his customers are like part

(below) Rose Sacco in a photo taken on opening day of J. Sacco's Meat Market in 1945.

of the family. The original store was located at 815 Third Avenue on the corner of Centre Street, across from St. Anthony's church.

There were few options for work for new immigrants in 1946. There was not much call for shepherds, which was Jim's profession in Castagna, Catanzaro in Calabria, Italy. He lasted only one week working at the Singer factory before determining that \$22 per week was not going to be enough money to raise his family. He worked in Kearny for NJ Provisions making cappacolla (Italian ham), before being coaxed and inspired by Rose to open his own store. Eventually J. Sacco became J. Sacco's and Sons and all three Sacco boys learned the trade as well as their cousins next door. In fact quite a few butchers made their bones under the tutelage of Mr. Jim. John would be the one to take over the operation as the others took different career paths.

Spend five minutes in the store and you can sense the passion that John has for his job. Even through the rapidly changing industry he maintains the work ethic that assures a quality product. There was a time when Elizabeth was home to quite a few meat houses, names like Armor, Swift, Wilson, Jersey Beef and Allen Packing that had freshly slaughtered meat available daily for distribution. At 6:00 am butchers would go and select and mark the carcasses they wanted and by 7:00 am they would be delivered. For the past 25 years John has been making the early morning trip to New York's meat packing district along 14th street.

Many butcher shops and the big super markets don't select the meat that they sell. Some don't even do the cutting. Meat now is delivered cut and packaged ready to sell. This is not acceptable to a hands on guy like John. It leaves out a layer of quality control that is so important when dealing with food.

John actually continued the practice his father did of going and buying his own livestock and doing the slaughtering himself. Jim used to go to Hackettstown, NJ every Tuesday to do so. John did the same making the trip to West Virginia. He would make the trip to the auction usually accompanied by his girlfriend Doreen Scala and a friend or two to help with the processing. They would buy cattle and calves and lambs and Goats during the Easter season. It was at the Winchester sale in West Virginia that John asked Doreen to marry him. They stopped making those regular trips after they were married and the family started to grow. John now goes to New Holland, PA to prepare for Easter. He takes orders during the weeks leading up to the trip.

Jim, now deceased, retired in 1980 and John has continued the tradition. John has built a reputation for being a great cook. His catering service, which features Italian specialties, gets high praise.

Sacco's is a throw back to how things were and the standard for how things ought to be. In a day and age where quality is sacrificed for convenience, a trip back to the old neighborhood butcher is worth making.

The Peterstown community wishes Sacco's continued success.



(above) Jim Sacco and son John.



(above, l-r) Jim Sacco, Harold Cohen from Jersey Beef Co.  
on E. Jersey Street, nephew Vincent, Sons John, Joe and Frank.



(right) John works on a Pennsylvania ranch preparing goats he will take back to his store for the Holidays.



(above, l-r) Lou LaBrutto, one of the many butchers who learned the trade working at Sacco's, with his mentor Mr. Jim and best friend John. Lou worked at Sacco's for 13 years until 1987, and went on to become a USDA Meat Inspector.

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4th Generation • Since 1932  
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*Made fresh every day!*  
*(Special orders accepted)*
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- **Beef Roast**
- **Fresh Rabbits**
- **Veal Cutlets**
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(Between St Anthony's Church & Spirito's Restaurant)

A CHIP OFF THE OL' BUTCHER BLOCK

Over the past sixty years customers of Sacco's Meat market saw three generations of the family grow up in the store. Frank, John and Joe all worked side by side with their father Jim, with John eventually taking over the store. Their mother, Rose and sister Maria were also part of the team.

Jim gave many young aspiring butchers from the neighborhood an opportunity to work and learn the trade in his shop including a handful of his nephews.

Now, a third generation of customers are seeing a third generation of Sacco's, John and Doreen's children Alessandra, Carla and John, helping their parents.

Recipes

Submitted by John Sacco, Jr. Sacco and Sons, Meat Market, Elizabeth, NJ

Pop Pop's Secret Eggplant

INGREDIENTS

Quantities depend on the number and size of Eggplant used. Eggplant Ham or Salami (cut small) Bread crumbs 1 or 2 eggs for each Eggplant Grated cheese Gravy (Tomato Sauce)

PREPARATION:

- 1) Split eggplant into four quarters & take the stem out. Boil for less than 10 minutes until soft.
- 2) Scoop out the inside of the eggplant, remove seeds, & place in a bowl.
- 3) Add grated cheese, ham or salami, & eggs to bowl and mix together adding breadcrumbs until firm.
- 4) Mold mixture into eggplant skins.
- 5) Line pan with gravy & place skins in side by side in rows. Top each with a little gravy & grated cheese.
- 6) Cover pan with foil & bake with 350° for 45 to 60 minutes.
- 7) Serve with pasta.
- 8) Enjoy and let someone else do the dishes.

Nana's Bow Ties

INGREDIENTS

8 Eggs 4 cups Flour 1/2 cup Oil 2 tps Baking Powder

PREPARATION:

- 1) Combine all ingredients.
- 2) Roll out flat and cut into 1/2" strips and tie into bowtie knots.
- 3) Put oil into cast iron or deep fryer, keep two inches from top of pan.
- 4) Drop bowties into hot oil and turn over until golden brown.
- 5) Serve with powder confectioner sugar.



(above) Jim and Rose Sacco with son John from 1954.



(above) John's wife Doreen (nee Scala).



(right, l-r) John starts teaching his son John the trade at the same age he learned.

(below, l-r) Ali and Carla help their dad crack olives to prep for jarring, an annual September tradition.

Not for Nothing But...

you can call sausage home-made when the butcher actually lives behind the store.



(above, left l-r) Brothers Joe and John with their cousin Vincent, and brother Frank from 1977.



(above, right, l-r) A recent photo with John's son John, Joe, John, Frank and Orlando.



(left, l-r) Frank, Joe, Maria, Carla and Maria's son Joey. The Sacco family, most live in Florida, were together working in the butcher shop in 2005 after the passing of their father. They prepared salad from the many fruit baskets sent by friends. The fruit salad was served to the hundreds of people who attended the funeral at a reception held in the cafeteria of St. Anthony's Church.

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Nicola Altamura and partner Giuseppe Cantatore have their Italian Deli, Massimo's, up and going full swing on the Boulevard in Kenilworth, NJ. It's a spot that was long known as an Italian Deli named Gino's. Nick and Joe moved in in April and started to put their personal touch on the service.

The partners already have a well established Italian Deli at 714 Bloomfield Avenue in Montclair named Bel Giovines. Nick practically grew up there working through his teen years for his cousin then buying the business in 1974, with his brother-in-law, when he was

(left) Nick Altamura at the entrance of Massimo's at 532 Boulevard in Kenilworth.

19 years old. Nick has expanded what the Kenilworth store has to offer including an extensive catering menu, a wider variety of deli choices and a selection of prepared food for lunch and dinner take out.

Nick brings 25 years of experience to Kenilworth and a great reputation. His mozzarella won top honors by The Munchmobile, the Star-Ledger's popular food van in search of Jersey's best food spots. Nick makes the mozzarella himself every morning six days a week. To him, mozzarella is not as good when it's a day old.

Nick's approach to his mozzarella is an example of how he treats all his services. Only the freshest quality ingredients and careful preparation will do. 🍕🧀

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(above, l-r) Massimo's staff, Frank Piccininni, John Fiamore, Nicola Altamura, Giovanni Fornino, Miguel Umaña.

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MAKING MOZZARELLA, NICK’S MORNING RITUAL

Nick Altamura starts each day at Massimo’s, his deli in Kenilworth, at seven o’clock in the morning to make his daily supply of fresh mozzarella. He makes anywhere between 80 to 120 pounds at a time. (below) The sequence of photos illustrate the process that Nick goes through to make his mozzarella.



**1.** Nick starts out with a 40 lb. block of milk curd that he pushes through a wire sieve that cuts it into small pieces.

At this time he starts bringing about 40 gallons of water to a boil.



**2.** The pot of curd is filled with hot water from the faucet.

**3.** The curd is broken down to smaller pieces using a paddle.

The water is drained and steps #2 and #3 are repeated until the curd gets soft.

(right) Illustration of Nick’s Mozzarella work place. All components are at a convenient arms’ length away.



**4.** the hot water is drained and boiling water is then poured into the pot.



**5.** The curd is stirred in the boiling water with a paddle until it gets to right consistency of oozy and stretchy. This is the stage where experience comes into play. The right amount of water must be used so the cheese is not too wet or too dry and not too hard or too stretchy.



**6.** The cheese is pulled and stretched by hand and pieces are broken off into their final sizes.

It was amazing that Nick’s hands turned red while he was working in water that was still steaming and didn’t even flinch.



**7.** Once kneaded into shape the cheese is quickly placed into water that is cool to the touch and sits for about 15 minutes to cool down. Cheese may harden if allowed to dry off. Pieces should be kept separated or they may stick together.



**8.** Cheese is then dipped into salted water and wrapped to retain moisture. Nick likes to braid his cheese and makes about 14 pieces weighing about 1 3/4 lbs. He makes baby braids for antipasto, round balls for cooking and Bocconcini (small balls) for salads.

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# ST. ANTHONY'S 80th ANNIVERSARY GALA HAD MASS APPEAL

(below and facing page) It is impossible to print the photos Fr. Greg Fishel shot of all 450 guests, so these were chosen by random selection generation program.

St. Anthony's Parish celebrated the 80th anniversary of the construction and dedication of the Church with a Gala Dinner Dance on November 10, 2007 that followed a trilingual Mass.

Over 450 guests filled the Winfield Scott Ballroom on North Broad Street in Elizabeth, NJ. Pastor, Fr. Patrick Diver extends his gratitude to the generosity of those in attendance and those who placed ads in the Program. 



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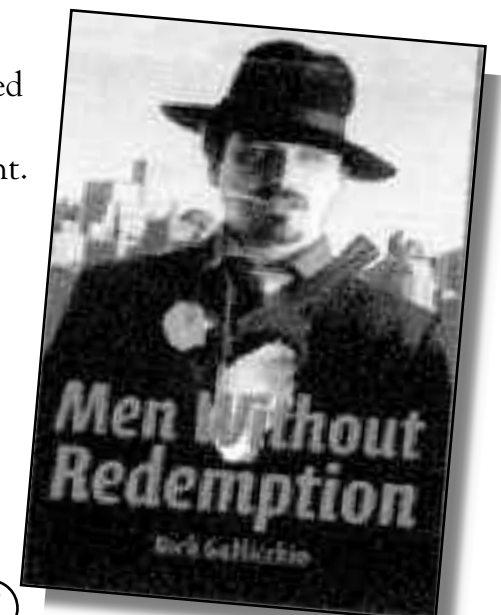
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KEEPING AN EYE ON WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The supervision of weights and measures is serious business, at least it was in the 1950s and 60s. That’s when Albert Triano was special superintendent for the City of Elizabeth. Newspaper reports of the department were commonplace with accounts of businesses breaking the rules and being caught.

The department is responsible for checking scales, containers and other measuring devices used in vending, food, gasoline, oil and other commodities, even baby scales in hospitals.

One of the most interesting *Daily Journal* articles from 1961 followed a meat-weighing scandal in New York City where inspectors accepted graft for rigging scales. Triano explained that it was not possible with the system he used because state inspectors made random inspections on them. He also submitted monthly reports to the state. Inspectors working under Triano would rotate assignments and never checked the same merchant.

Some stories include fishermen vending without a scale, oil delivery men refusing to have their meters checked, a frankfurter roll seller had no weights marked on its packages, a merchant was over charging for meat, one butcher was prosecuted for putting a 12 ounce lead fishing sinker in seven turkeys, a lumber company was

fined for selling charcoal without a license, this action turned into charges of hindrance against the merchant and counter accusations of assault by Triano which were dismissed in court.

An annual report from 1959 showed that the County of Union called upon 4,037 businesses. There was 5,252 scales found to be correct, 237 were condemned and 484 were adjusted, capacity measured had 9,344 correct, 271 condemned, 19 adjusted. Linear measures saw 917 correct, seven condemned. 16, 184 weights were correct, 68 condemned and 78 adjusted. Commodity reweighings and measurements 118,343 correct and 4,110 condemned.

In a 1963 article Elizabeth mayor Steven Bercik proclaimed the first week of March as “Elizabeth Weights and Measures Week.”

The mayor stated that the city unit is “one of our most important to the consumer.” He added that it is “vital to equitable commerce”, and “guards impartially the interests of all buyers and sellers of commodities, especially protecting the consumer in his purchase of necessities for everyday living.”



(above) Photo from a *Daily Journal* article about Elizabeth's Weights and Measures Unit. The caption read:

“WEIGHING” THE SCALES: Jeremiah J. Hurley, left, sealer of weights and measures, and Albert L. Triano, special superintendent, check scales to make sure Elizabeth shoppers get fair weight in store purchases.

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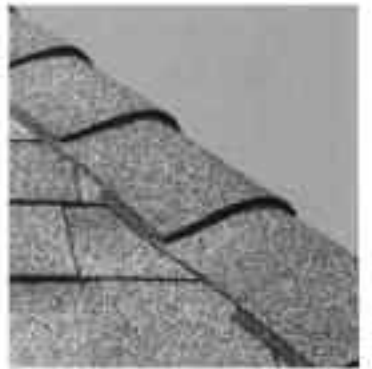
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