



HONOR VETS FOR SELFLESS SACRIFICE

The number of American soldiers killed in Iraq is approaching 2,000. In addition to this, there is well over 14,000 that were wounded in action. These men and women will carry the scars of this war with them the rest of their lives. Attention must be paid to their plight as well as the vets of past wars.

Those who pay the ultimate price leave behind grieving families, their lives forever changed with the loss of a loved one. They suffer with their memory of the soldier and thinking of how things could be. The men and women who return from war having been wounded are also suffering. The pain is not always physical, it may be psychological or emotional.

When the wounded return they must adjust to life with the burden of their injury. Sometimes that path is too difficult to travel alone. Society has an obligation to assist these veterans. Their sacrifice is what allows the society to exist as it is.

Regardless of our personal ideology on the justification of America's military actions, the reality is that our soldiers are in the thick of it. They have put themselves at risk in the belief that what they are doing will save innocent lives back home. It is the pain and suffering they experience in the field that they are bringing home. These brave soldiers should be embraced and honored.

There are many veterans organizations doing their best to help their brethren, but, no matter how hard they try it is not enough, considering that over 670,000 soldiers were wounded in World War II alone. Followed by the wars and conflicts over the past 60 years, including the present war on terror, the number of combat wounded veterans is countless. Most of these men and women were able to assimilate back into the daily grind seamlessly. Many go through life showing no indication of the injuries suffered or of the heroic deeds they performed.

One organization dedicated specifically to the combat wounded veterans is the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Their mission is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives and, most importantly, provide service to all veterans and their families.

The Commander for the Union County chapter of the organization is Anthony LaFarrara. LaFarrara is originally from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ and now lives in Cranford. The headquarters for his organization is housed in the local Elks Club in Cranford. The Elks Club is also very dedicated to the cause of helping veterans and have generously supported LaFarrara's organization.

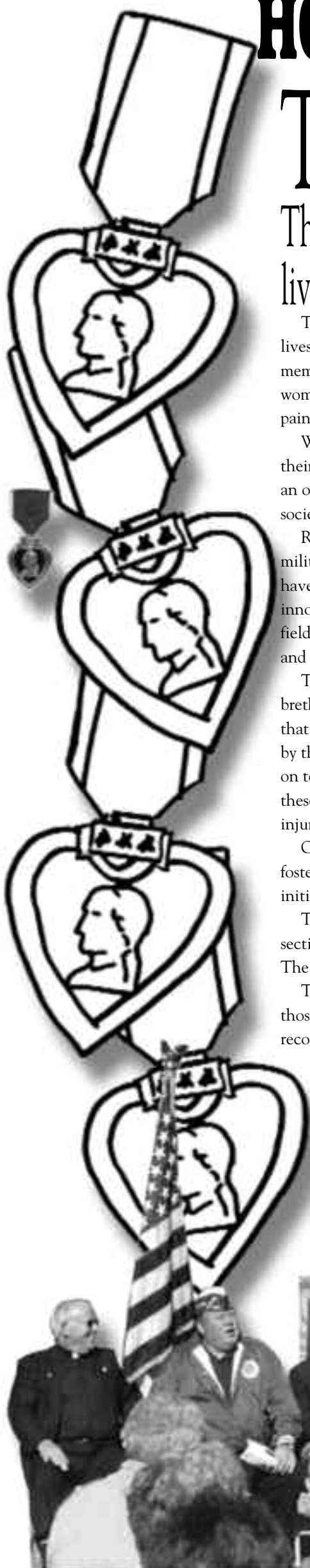
There is a need to get the message out to veterans that there is help. One of the biggest problems the organizations have is finding those who could use their services but don't have the wherewithal or resources to find the help. It is up to family, neighbors and friends to recognize those in need and assist them in contacting one of the veterans organizations.

Mr. LaFarrara would like to reach anyone who is a recipient of a Purple Heart. He could be reached at 908-276-2714. There are organizations for different aspects of veteran services, in virtually every town. The first step is to make contact. Sometimes that is all the help that is needed.

Veterans of WWII are now in the twilight of their years and some are alone. Companionship can be a cure for what ails them. And though it seems like a small gesture, a simple thank you may make a world of difference.



(above, l-r) World War II veterans and Purple Heart Recipients, Jack Fein and Al Laucius helped in the unveiling of a monument dedicated to all those who also received the decoration. The monument stands in Memorial Park on Springfield Avenue in Cranford, NJ.



(left) Anthony LaFarrara delivers a speech as Masters of Ceremonies at the October 1, 2005 unveiling of the monument dedicated to recipients of the military decoration, The Purple Heart.

(l-r) LaFarrara was joined by Fr. John McGovern of St. Michael's Church in Cranford; State Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Dennis Moriarty; NJ State Senator, Thomas Kean, Jr.; Plumbers Local #24 Business Manager, Mark McMannus; Cranford Director of Parks and Recreation, Frank D'Antonio; and Cranford Mayor, George Jorn.

everybody has one - this is mine - by Joe Rennau

The casualties of recent catastrophes are being measured by the thousands, even tens of thousands. The Tsunami in Asia effected millions of people, over 200,000 died. The U.S. was hit by a series of hurricanes displacing entire cities. News of the 7.6 earthquake that hit Pakistan killing almost 20,000 shared headlines with a mud slide in Guatemala that wiped out a village. Millions of people are now in need of assistance. The challenge may seem insurmountable, and for any one individual it is. The idea that one little contribution will make no difference is not accurate and people should not be discouraged from contributing. What may seem as a small gesture looms large in the eyes of the recipient.

Our choice for giving should be what satisfies us the most. Suffering is a constant. It will always exist. It is not something that will ever be conquered and go away. Our only goal is to minimize it. In satisfying your own need to help someone you will perpetuate your desire to do more. Don't think by helping one cause you are slighting another. Rest assured that the passion you have to help your cause is equal to someone's support of another.

AUTISM HITS CLOSE TO HOME FOR ALL OF US

Autism, a vexing brain disorder, remains largely a mystery. Researchers still don't know what causes it, nor do they know how best to treat a condition that prompts one child to stop speaking and another to memorize movie scripts. With a tenfold spike in numbers over the past 20 years, 1 in every 166 children is now diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)—researchers, advocacy groups and the government are racing to improve the lives of children and their families, many of them emotionally and financially drained.

THE 2005 NORTH CENTRAL/NEW JERSEY WALK-A-THON FOR AUTISM RESEARCH

Details appear to the right. **F**

In just eight years, NAAR has committed an astounding \$21 million to fund biomedical Autism research projects worldwide. NAAR has also been active in advocating for increased government funding for research through the (NIH), and other government agencies and keeps its supporters informed about research efforts through both narrative and its electronic newsletters.

Proceeds benefit the National Alliance for Autism Research
99 Wall St., Research Park, Princeton, New Jersey 08540
(609) 430-9160; 888-777-NAAR • naar@naar.org
www.NAAR.org • www.AutismWalk.org




PALERMO CHAIRS AUTISM WALKATHON

A personal appeal

This year I am chairperson for the Annual Walk-a-thon. We would love to see you attend if you could, it's a wonderful day out and there are neat activities for the children to enjoy. There will be light refreshments and drinks (water, juice, etc.). Clowns will be walking around and there will be a rock wall, moon bounce and a craft table to enjoy. WPLJ will also be there to provide entertainment. Also, someone very special by the name of Ray Saluccio donated a gift that will be given to the children that attend that day. Thank you very much Ray, I'm sure that the children will love there new friend. I would also like to put out a special thank you to another special person which also happens to be a good friend by the name of Greg Jacobson who donated all the candy that will be there for the kids to enjoy. The kids love you Candy Man, thank you so much.

I feel so blessed to have a family which is so very strong and supportive and an array of growing friendships. THANK YOU, without you I would not have been able to get myself together and pull through for my son.

I love you all with all my heart for helping make a dream come true. Helping my son and so many other children get the help they need to make there life livable, huggable and lovable. 

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RIBERA CLUB CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF NEW CLUB CONSTRUCTION ON DAY OF PICNIC

The Ribera Club held their 11th annual picnic on September 11th on the property adjacent to the Peterstown Community Center. They purchased the land with intent of constructing a clubhouse that would incorporate classrooms as well as meeting rooms. The intent is to have a place where the next generation of club members can grow in the knowledge of the Italian culture.

The picnic, like always was well attended by members, neighbors and families. The setting was a perfect place to discuss the future plans of the site and to share the

excitement. Elizabeth Mayor, Chris Bollwage, did the honors of scooping the first shovelful of dirt to mark the beginning of construction. He was joined by Councilmen, Manny Grova, Ed Jackus and Carlos Alma. A moment of silence was observed for the memory of those who died in the terror attacks on that day, four years ago. The rest of the day was filled with music, mass quantities of food, and dozens of kids enjoying themselves.



(above) Ribera Club President, Frank Guarraci shakes hands with Mayor Bollwage ceremonially breaking ground on the club house to be built on Palmer Street, off Fourth Avenue.

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(right) Music was supplied by
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fisarmonica: Angelo Giudici,
and Jake kept the women from
rushing the stage.



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40 million
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sleep disorders affecting
life, health, work and
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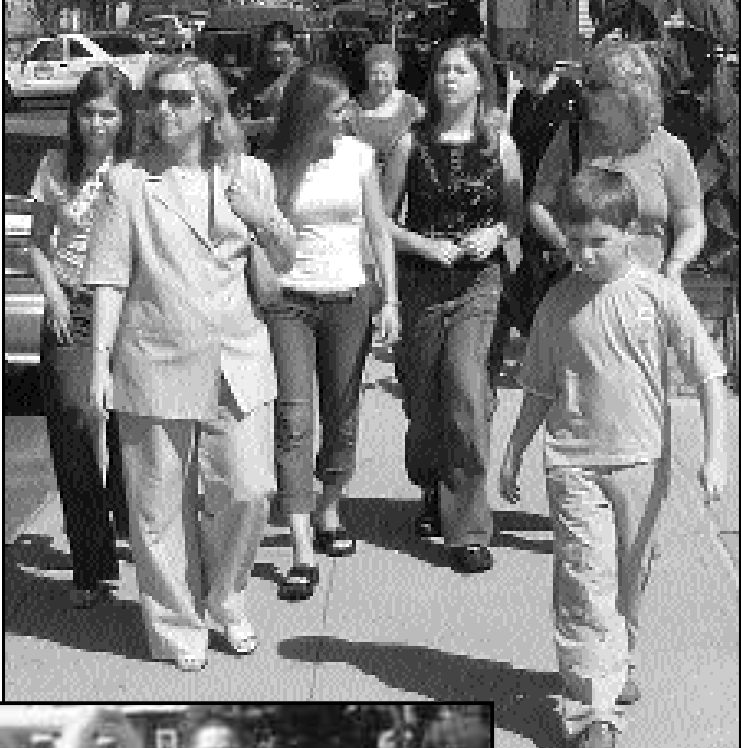


PHOTOS OF THE PICNIC CONTINUED



(above) Enzo Billero Shoulders his son, Frank.

(right, l-r) The Sortizza family, Maria, 8 1/2, Filippo, 1 mo., Anthony, Granna, 7, Sharon and Stephanie, 3.



(above) Melissa Majewski and Joey Miceli announced their engagement to be married.



(above) Brianna and Jenna Rinaldo with Martina- Maria Catalanotto under Anna's watchful eye.



(right, r-l) Calogero Toccetta hand off to Gabriel Milanes who is following the block of Giuseppe Bongiovi in a game of touch football.

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(above, l-r) Fabio Mirabile, Natalia DaRosa with daughter, Micaela and Fabio's's mom, Tania.



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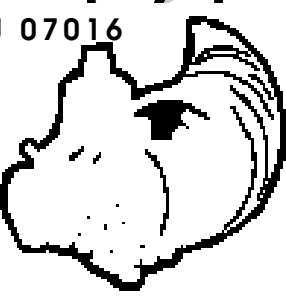
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 Before making your choice of attorney, you should give this matter careful thought. The selection of an attorney is an important decision. If



(above) Life Master, Scott Massey lectures the Kenilworth Chess Club on a Capablanca - Ilyin-Glennvsky game from Moscow International Tournament from 1925.

(below, l-r) FIDE Master, Steve Stoyko discusses position with Michael Goeller.

(below, center, l-r) Bill Sokolosky from Peterstown, Ari Minkov, Laukik Gadgil and Mark Karnighan mix it up.



ALL WELCOME TO THE KENILWORTH CHESS CLUB

Established in 1972, at the height of the Fischer craze, the Kenilworth Chess Club is a fun and active club with both beginner and master chess players. They meet every Thursday night beginning at 8:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building at 575 Kenilworth Boulevard in Kenilworth, New Jersey.

Visitors and new members are always welcome and chess lessons are available. Membership is \$15 per year. Membership is not required to play, but some activities, such as our annual Club Championship tournament, are only open to members. Chess sets, boards, and clocks are provided.

There are still a handful of active clubs in the area but not like there used to be. The Kenilworth Chess Club has been one of the most consistent with members dating back thirty years.

The club also has its share of strong players. Scott Massey is a Life Master and Steve Stoyko is a FIDA Master. Steve is also a two time New Jersey Open Champion. He is presently club champ, an honor Scott held for many years. Both attend regularly and often give lectures. Besides hosting lectures the club hosts several tournaments. But mostly members play casual games until the wee hours of the morning. ♟

• • • • •

Not for Nothing But...

I was the water
 boy on my high
 school chess team.

• • • • •

In the same same vain that claims 1,000 monkeys typing on 1,000 typewriters eventually will write "Hamlet", can 1,000 monkeys eventually beat Kosparov in a continuous simultaneous tournament? And by the same token, theoretically, if I play Tomkovich enough times I will inevitably make a combination of thirty moves which will finally defeat him.

(below, l-r) Yahoo player, Peterstown_NJ, has a game analysed by Greg Tomkovich.



The Kenilworth Chess Club has a very informative and entertaining web site which can be found at www.kenilworthchessclub.org.

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THE THRILL OF VICTORY

The good thing about chess is that there is always someone out there who is worse than you are, even when almost everyone else is better. To find suitable competition that I can beat I go to the internet, Yahoo games in particular. My screen name is peterstown_nj. The player in the following game was rated much higher than me and so I was particularly thrilled with my win.

I was down a pawn early and lost a piece on move 13. I thought I played brilliantly to pull out a win. The reality, as pointed out by my high school classmate, Greg Tomkovich, is that I played pretty poorly and my opponent played worse. Greg wrote this quick analysis of the game. He was being very kind.

Notes by Greg Tomkovich

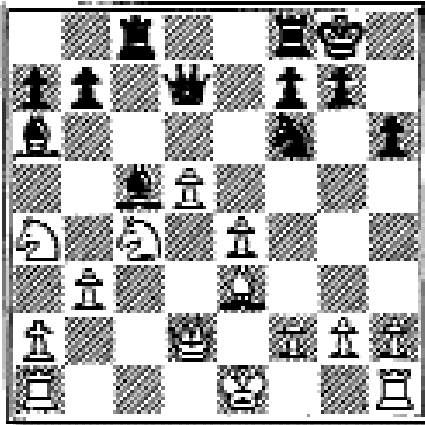
Both players made some significant errors in the game, but they played with a lot of energy. Black missed the opportunity to play 13 ... Qd4! after Nxe5, White missed that 19 Nxc5! was far better than Bxc5. Black's last error was 34 ... Qb4? (better is Rxe3), but the final error was made by White 38 Bd6?? (g3 makes an escape square for the King with a very good game).

The saying, "The player who makes the next to last mistake wins," held true for this game. An important lesson to be learned is that even if you are behind, don't give up hope, you may yet pull victory from the hands of defeat.

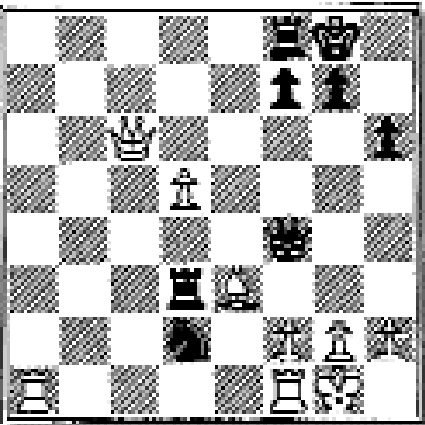
(right) Greg Tomkovich, a "Chess Bully" in high school, picks on classmate Rich Wischusen after beating Curt Mohr for his lunch money.



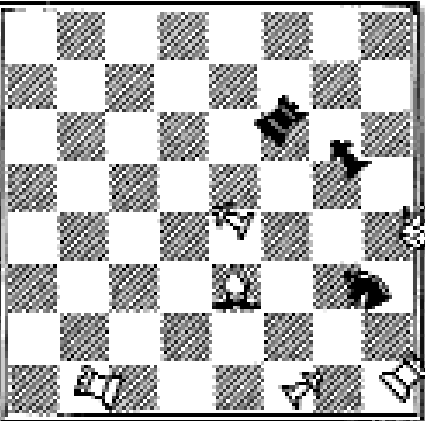
Yahoo! Chess Game March 16, 2005					
White:			Black:		
patrick1597			peterstown_nj		
1	d2-d4		d7-d5	21	o-o a6xc4
2	c2-c4		c7-c5	22	b3xc4 d7xa4
3	d4xc5		e7-e6	23	c5xa7 c8xc4
4	e2-e3		f8xc5	24	d4-b6 c4-b4
5	c4xd5		e6-e5	25	b6-e3 a4-b5
6	e3-e4		h7-h6	26	a2-a3 b4-b3
7	g1-f3		b8-d7	27	e3-d4 b3-d3
8	f1-b5		d8-b6	28	a1-b1 b5-a6
9	b5xd7+		c8xd7	29	d4-b6 a6xa3
10	d1-e2		d7-b5	30	b6xb7 e4-d2
11	e2-c2		a8-c8	31	b1-e1 e8-f8
12	b1-c3		c5-b4	32	e1-a1 a3-d6
13	f3xe5		g8-f6	33	b7-c6 d6-f4
14	c1-e3		b4-c5	34	a7-e3 f4-b4
15	c2-d2		b5-a6	35	e3-c5 b4-g4
16	b2-b3		o-o	36	c5xf8 d2xf1
17	c3-a4		b6-d6	37	a1xf1 d3-d1
18	e5-c4		d6-d7	38	f8-d6 d1xf1+
19	e3xc5		f6xe4	39	Resigns
20	d2-d4		f8-e8		



Position after move 18 ... Qd7



Position after move 34 Be3



Position after move 34 ... Rxf1
patrick1597 knocked the board over.

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(above, l-r) John Eldridge of the Cranford Elks Club #2006 and Tony LaFarrara of MORF are united in their efforts to assist veterans through various programs.

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RECIPIENTS OF PURPLE HEART METAL HONORED

On October 1, 2005, a monument dedicated to recipients of this nations oldest military decoration, "The Purple Heart", was unveiled in a touching and inspirational ceremony. The idea for the monument was promoted by Anthony LaFarrara, Commander of the Union County Chapter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH). LaFarrara has also been the New Jersey State Commander for six years.

Tony LaFarrara is a veteran of World War II where he was in the 3rd Infantry Division of the Army. As commander, Tony, wanted to create a visual reminder to people of the men and women who paid a personal price defending the country. He was involved in erecting a similar memorial in Elizabeth approximately 15 years ago. The memorial is in Memorial Park on Springfield Avenue, the present hometown of the organization.

The Cranford Elks Club #2006 has been very supportive of Tony and his cause. MORF is headquartered at the Cranford Elks clubhouse, 951 Lincoln Avenue. Even though they are located in Union County the organization does work elsewhere especially in the hospitals in East Orange and Lion's Hospital in Millington.

The purchase of the memorial was made possible through donations. Tony acknowledged the Elks Club for their support and the generosity of Plumbers Local #24. The Elks Club was represented by its Exalted Ruler, John Eldridge. The Plumbers Local, where Tony worked for sixty years before retiring, was represented by its Business Manager, Mark McMannus.

Because of a technical malfunction the recording of Taps could not be played so Selma Fein stepped up and sang a rendition. It was sweeter than any recording could possibly sound.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart has approximately 160 members in its Union County Chapter. LaFarrara knows there are others out there who can benefit from joining. He's on a continuous mission to find them. He can be reached at (908) 276-2714.

TAPS

Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Fading light, dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.
From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise, for our days,
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, neath the sky;
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

Sun has set, shadows come,
Time has fled, Scouts must go to their beds
Always true to the promise that they made.

While the light fades from sight,
And the stars gleaming rays softly send,
To thy hands we our souls, Lord, commend.

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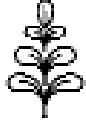
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THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

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In this state of New Jersey we have a department of 21 charters, one in every county with approximately 2,500 members. Our main function is to educate the citizens of this great state, and to service our fellow patriots that are hospitalized. A quote by General George Washington - "Let it be known that he who wears the 'Order of the Purple Heart' has given of his blood in the defense of his homeland and shall forever be revered by his fellow countrymen." Union County Chapter #28 Military Order of the Purple Heart is located at the Cranford Elks, 951 Lincoln Avenue. The chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 8:00 pm. All purple heart veterans are invited to join this great organization.

For further information contact
Anthony LaFerrara, Commander
463 Ludlow Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016
(908) 276-2714



(Above) The Purple Heart metal.

(Left) A close look at the Memorial in Cranford.

Text on top:
DEDICATED TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THIS
NATIONS OLDEST MILITARY DECORATION
"THE PURPLE HEART"

Text on face:
MY STONE IS RED FOR THE BLOOD THEY
SHED. THE METAL I BEAR IS MY COUNTRY'S
WAY TO SHOW THEY CARE. IF I COULD BE
SEEN BY ALL MANKIND, MAYBE PEACE WILL
COME IN MY LIFETIME.



(above, l-r) Tony LaFerrara and childhood friend Tony DiBella. The two Tony's grew up on Palmer Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, but split company when LaFerrara went into the Army and DiBella, the Navy. Tony L. called on Tony D. concerning the memorial project. Tony's business, The DiBella Agency, is on Centennial Avenue in Cranford close by to where his old friend lives.

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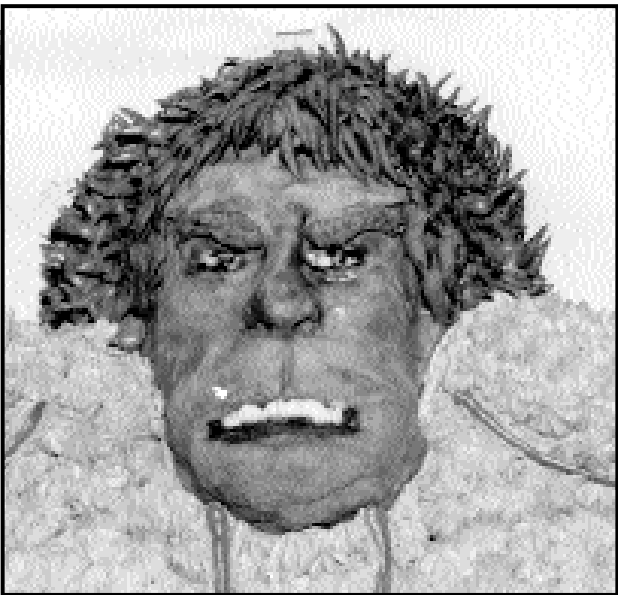
WIN A HALLOWEEN CAKE FROM JOANNE'S

Halloween isn't a normal work day at Joanne's Luncheonette. Everyone dresses in costumes and trick or treaters of all ages are welcome all day. Bring in this article before October 28 and get a chance to win one of

Phyllis' specialty cakes decorated for Halloween. If you're the lucky winner, you can pick up your cake after 3:00 pm and have it to enjoy with family and friends for the weekend. 🍬

(left) A two story haunted house cake.

(below) The Hulk.



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Submitted by Phyllis Fernandez of Joanne's Luncheonette - Elizabeth, NJ

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Cinnamon Apple Squares

- INGREDIENTS:
- 1 1/4 cups sugar-divided
 - 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons butter-divided
 - 1 egg
 - 2 cups all purpose flour
 - 1/8 tablespoon salt
 - 1 tablespoon baking powder
 - 4 cup apples cored, peeled and sliced
 - 1 tablespoon cinnamon

- PREPARATIONS:
- 1) Cream 1 cup sugar and 1/2 cup butter
 - 2) Add egg and beat until smooth.
 - 3) Mix in flour, salt, baking powder; mixture will resemble coarse crumbs.
 - 4) Pat 1/2 mixture into 8 x 8 baking dish.
 - 5) Pour apples on top.
 - 6) Sprinkle with remaining sugar and cinnamon, dot with remaining butter.
 - 7) Top with remaining crumb mixture.
 - 8) Bake at 350 for 45 minutes.
- Serves 12

Aunt Anne's
Pumpkin Cake Squares
with Frosting

- INGREDIENTS:
- 4 eggs
 - 1 cup oil
 - 1 2/3 cups sugar
 - 15 oz can of pumpkin
 - 2 teaspoons baking powder
 - 2 cups flour
 - 2 teaspoons cinnamon
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon baking powder
- PREPARATION:
- 1) Preheat oven to 350.
 - 2) Beat together eggs, oil, sugar, and pumpkin.
 - 3) Add remaining ingredients and beat until smooth.
 - 4) Pour into uncreased jelly roll pan.
 - 5) Bake for 25-30 minutes. Let cool before frosting.

- FROSTING:
- 1/2 cup margarine
 - 2 cups sifted powdered sugar
 - 3 oz softened cream cheese
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla

- PREPARATION:
- 1) Beat together all ingredients until smooth
 - 2) Spread on squares and decorate



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(above) Tony Esposito with his very hefty tomatoes.



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TONY ESPOSITO'S MAGIC GARDEN

Few gardens are more productive than that of Tony Esposito. His scientific approach and meticulous care of his garden reaps an unbelievable amount of produce from such a small area. His garden is about three feet wide and wraps around three sides of a 20 foot square lawn.

Tony grows three types of tomatoes, three types of peppers, three types of lettuce two types of cucumbers, along with beans, basil and, of course, cocozza, which he labels "bats".

There's really no magic involved in his success, just a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience that came from years of perfecting what his father taught him. In the 1930's, Tony's father, Costantino, had a permit to garden on land owned by the City of Elizabeth. Lots about one block in area were mapped out in the south end of

Peterstown between Third and Fifth Avenues, and from Loomis Street to Butler Street. Now the Turnpike has claimed most of the land. Gardeners would dig their own wells on their parcels, tend to the vegetables and sell what they didn't eat at the market.

Tony knows every nuance of his plants and soil. He rotates the crops each year to balance the nutrients in the soil. Everything he grows comes from seeds that he prepares from previous seasons of growing. All his seeds are bagged and labeled, the variety seems endless.

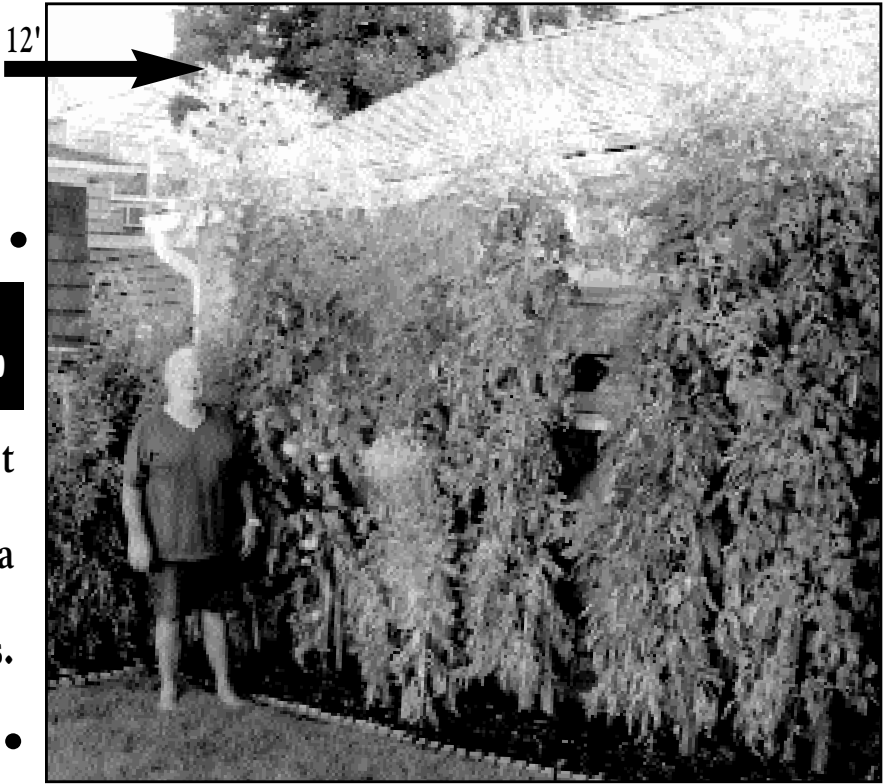
Tony jars some veggies like peppers, but mostly gives everything he grows away, something that has become a tradition for many of his friends, and no matter if it is one of high bred tomatoes or grapes from his 20 year old vine, the taste is never disappointing. 🍆

(right) Tony Esposito is dwarfed by his tomato plants which grew to over 12 feet high. Each plant produced 25 to 35 tomatoes the size of softballs.

.....
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I traded a goose that
laid golden eggs for a
handful of magic beans.

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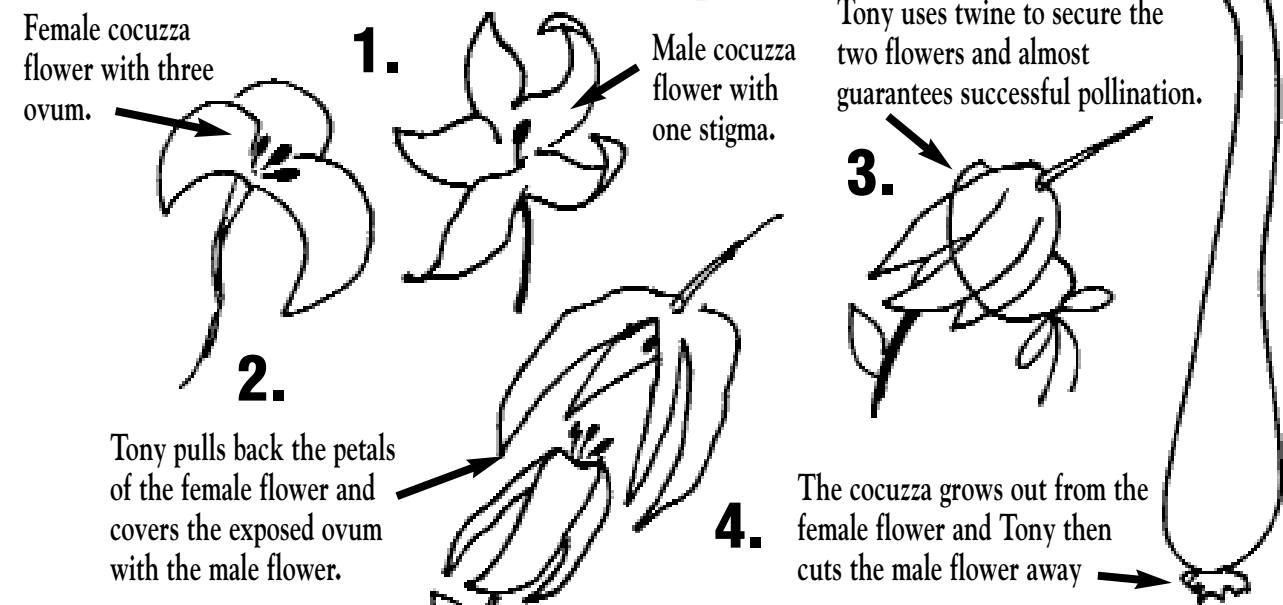
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A LESSON IN THE BIRDS AND THE BEES

Parental digression is advised

When there are not enough bees to pollonate Tony Esposito's cocuzza, a long sicilian sqash, he becomes the goomba and helps them along. Some gardeners take a small paint brush to swipe the male flower's stamen, which produces the pollen, and then brushes the female flower's stigma. The pollen is mixed with the ovum and that is how baby cocuzzas are born.

There is still no guarentee that the mating will stick so Tony actually uses a bondage method to put the two love flowers together. He marries the male and female flowers together and ties them with twine and then lets nataure take its course.



(above, left) Tony grows his seedlings in barrels from seeds he saved from previous seasons, before transferring them to the garden. (right) A hand written chart of the barrels keeps track of the plants. There are fourteen different vegetables in these four barrels, with 2 to 5 dozen plants in each section.

.....15
Not for Nothing But...
Oct 05

I think the female flower should have a say in the choice of the male flower.

.....
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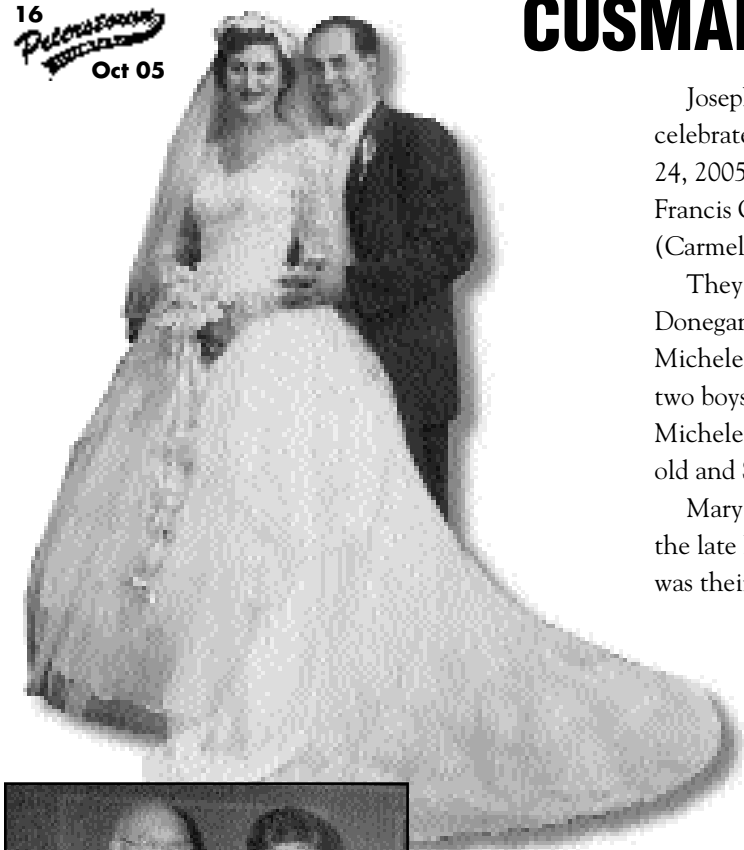
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CUSMANOS CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



Joseph and Mary Cusmano of High Street Elizabeth celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 24, 2005. They are the children of the late Michael and Francis Giacalone of Elizabeth and Paul and Anna (Carmella) Cusmano of Linden, New Jersey.

They have two children, Paul Cusmano and Michele Donegan. Paul is married to Janice (nee Favor) and Michele is married to William T. Donegan, Esq. Paul has two boys, Paul 15 years old and Anthony is 12 years old. Michele has William Jr. 15 years old, Connor 13 years old and Sarah 10 years old.

Mary is the sister of Bess Giacalone and their brothers the late Leonard and Mario Giacalone. Joe's brother who was their best man came up from Florida and Phyllis

Valtenbach, their maid of honor came also, others in the bridal party who attended were Mr. & Mrs. Frank Fedorochko of Elizabeth, Joe's sister Gloria and her husband Andy Yanni also attended.

The party was attended by mostly family and a few friends at the Westwood in Garwood, NJ.

Joe and Mary met before he went overseas to the Korean War in 1951. They corresponded while he was there. Then they dated when he came home in 1953.

Mary graduated from Edison H.S. Elizabeth in 1949, Joe graduated from Thomas Jefferson H.S. also in Elizabeth in 1948. Mary worked for Ashley's on Elizabeth Avenue in Elizabeth and also for Mason's on Wood Avenue in Linden. She retired n 1996.

Joe worked for Singer Manufacturing Company in Elizabeth and also for Western Electric and AT&T in Clark, NJ. He retired in 1994 after 40 years of service.



(right, l-r) Joe and Mary with daughter-in-law Janice and son Paul.

(below) Bill and Michele Donegan family.



(top) Joe and Mary Cusmano on their wedding day, September 24, 1955. (above) 50 years later on their anniversary.



(right, l-r) Joe and Mary with their grandchildren, Connor, Paul, Sarah, Anthony, and Billy.

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IN MEMORY OF THE RECENT DEPARTED

Ignazio Tranchita

Ignazio Tranchita, 83, of Point Pleasant, passed away, Friday, September 30, 2005 at his residence. Born in Elizabeth, he lived in the Peterstown section, residing in Point Pleasant for twenty-four years.

A United States Army, World War II veteran, Mr. Tranchita was a brick mason in the Union County area for many years. Additionally, he was part-owner of the New Roma Bar, Elizabeth, a family-owned business which was established by his late father, Vito. Later, he and his late brother Joseph, owned the Pebble Lounge, also in Elizabeth and he also was a former member of the Mattano Club, Elizabeth.

A beloved husband and loving father, he was predeceased by his wife, of over forty-one years, Elizabeth (nee Migliore) and is survived by his daughter, Michele Barzydlo and her husband, Charles of Point Pleasant; three sons, Robert and his wife, Ceola of Whiting, James and his wife, Donna of Point Pleasant, and Russell and his companion, Anthony Roberts of Brick; he is also survived by his sister, Vita D'Alosio of Toms River; seven grandchildren, Cindy, Lisa, Amanda, Eric, Danielle, Christopher, and Kara and by two great-grandchildren, April and Michael.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church, Elizabeth, on Monday, October 3, 2005 with interment at Saint Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Dr. Peter V. Caterinicchio

Family and friends of Dr. Peter V. Caterinicchio are mourning his death on July 24, 2005 after a brief illness. Peter, the son of Salvatore and Mary Caterinicchio, was a longtime resident of Peterstown and had a private optometry practice on Elizabeth Avenue for over 40 years, almost to the time of his death. He was known and beloved by many and in turn loved his family, friends and Peterstown deeply.



He was a graduate of Jefferson high School, Duquesne University and the Pennsylvania School of Optometry. After graduate school Peter served in the U.S. Army at Walter Reed Hospital. In addition to his optometry practice, he served as a truant officer for the Elizabeth Public School System.

One of his deepest pleasures was to visit his old neighborhood, particularly Christine Street and Second Avenue, as well as having breakfast at Sacco's and lunch almost daily at Jerry's Hot Dog Stand on Elizabeth Avenue.

He leaves behind his wife, Delphine, a son Joseph, a daughter, Denise Olexa (Scott) and 2 grandchildren, Brittany and Patrick, as well as his brother, Dr. Ben Caterinicchio also a native of Peterstown.

Simone Palermo

A lasting tribute to a friend, a brother, a father submitted by James Palermo & Family

On August 28, 2005 Simone Palermo passed away at his home with his loved ones by his side. He left behind a legacy of kindness, compassion and generosity that will be very hard to follow. All who knew him can attest to that.

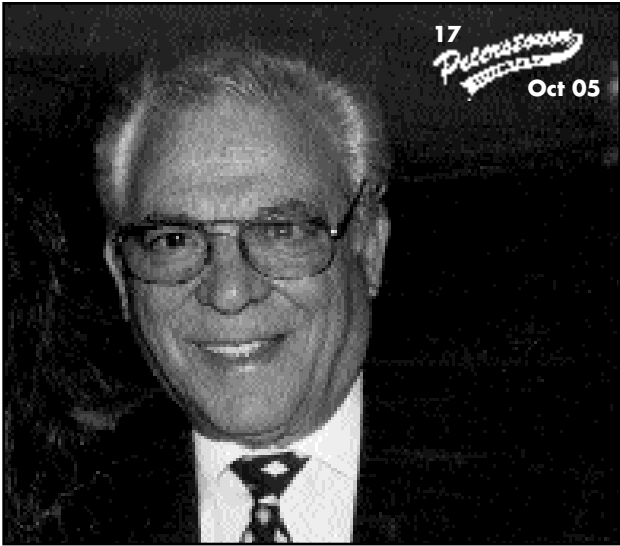
He was a successful businessman, loving husband and father, and a great friend to all. He achieved all of this because of his parent's guidance. His mom and dad were loved and respected by the people of the towns they lived in, first in Ribera, Sicily, where they married, then in Peterstown where they settled among family and friends from the old world. My dad saw the way my grandparents treated everyone, with kindness, compassion and generosity. They were truly great people, and my father followed the same path they laid before him. I hope and pray that my journey leads me down that same path.

On behalf of my family I would like to thank all who attended the services, sent flowers, mass cards, or made donations. A special thanks goes out to St. Anthony's Church and Deacon Joe for his beautiful sermon. His kind words touched all our hearts. During his sermon Deacon Joe quoted a phrase someone used to describe my father, it went like this: "If you needed a friend, he was your friend; if you needed a brother, he was your brother; if you needed a father, he was your father." That summed up my dad's life in one tearful phrase.

At his viewing one of my dad's friends came to me and said, "Your dad walked with kings but chose to stay among us peasants." That was the lasting impression he left on this person. It's a quote that I will never forget.

That was my dad's persona, his charisma. My dad also used many quotes or (one-liners) to make us laugh or to ponder life as he viewed it. People have been sharing their favorite Simone quote with me. I would like to gather these memories of my father as a tribute to him and print a lasting memory of his life to pass along. If anyone has story or a memory about my dad that they can share with me, please write it down and send it to this newspaper.

Any effort to write me would be greatly appreciated. Contact information is on page two.



Simone Palermo

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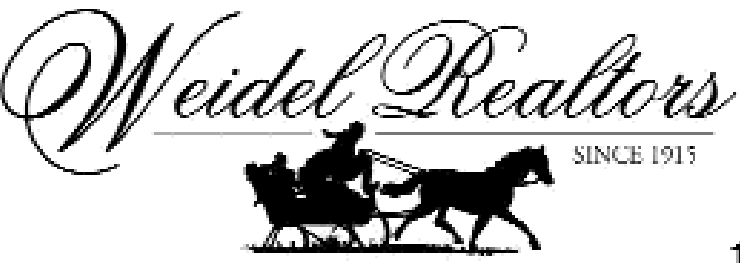
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It's amazing that it's fall already. The leaves on the trees are starting to change, kids are back in school and Halloween and Thanksgiving are right around the corner.

Very shortly homeowners will stop mowing the grass and will start blowing the leaves away. This year there was a fungus that spread throughout Union County destroying many front lawns and backyards. I strongly recommend that homeowners seek a professional opinion about how to solve this problem. I am bringing this topic up at this time because it's also the season to start thinking about reseeding your lawn.

Landscaping is one of the amenities that help homeowners get the highest value for their property. When a property is professionally landscaped and well maintained with a manicured lawn and yard it adds to the curb appeal and buyers are typically attracted to this. Landscaping is a homeowners tool to getting a higher value for their home. Unfortunately, not all of us are born with a green thumb. But there is no question in the spring when the flowering trees and bushes are blooming, that potential buyers are attracted by this site. In the fall when trees start changing color the contrast of the different colored leaves also becomes appealing. When riding around Union County you will see many homes now decorated for Halloween. You will also see an abundance of mums in different colors. If you have your house for sale at this time, this will also attract potential buyers to your home. Flowers are a natural attraction.

This week the ABC TV show 20/20 featured a special about real estate. A portion of the show was about speculator buyers. They interviewed various real estate brokers and buyers from many states.

In particular, they talked with buyers who were involved in purchasing property in pre-construction and

Submitted by Justino Rosa

then flipping the property to another buyer, prior to closing, for more money. The program showed how many buyers actually made more money than the builder himself. I am bringing this topic up because many buyers do not realize that there are many new guidelines concerning flipping properties. In today's real estate market most financial institutions now require a minimum of one year after the initial buyer purchases a home before they will allow a new re-evaluation to a new buyer. This is not a law but it's a policy for most major lenders.

This policy has come about because of the fraud that has perpetuated in various parts of our country where unscrupulous investors are flipping the properties to naive and sometimes ignorant buyers. Typically this happens with distressed properties, foreclosures, and new construction. Many of the buyers are not even qualified to buy a home. In essence, they do not make enough money to make their mortgage payments. These buyers are brought into the scam with an illusion of making money in a real estate market that seems consistently to go up.

Very recently, in the state of New Jersey, there have been numerous investigations into large investment companies that are acting in a predatory manner with regards to naive buyers. There has already been numerous convictions of mortgage brokers, attorneys, appraisers, and real estate agents. There are now new investigations into the scam.

If you ride thru Elizabeth today there are more and more new homes. Let's hope that our economy keeps up and the builders that we have in Elizabeth continue to beautify and make Elizabeth better.

Last but not least let's say a prayer for the victims of Rita and Katrina and also the poor victims of India and Pakistan and also the people in Guatemala who are suffering the mud slides. 🙏

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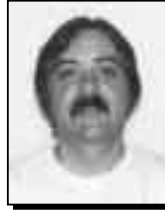
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