



## WHAT BECOMES A HERO MOST

Luigi Marciante, Jr. became a hero the second he decided to enlist in the army. America was in the throes of war when he volunteered. There was no question as to the risk he was taking but his sense of duty outweighed his options in civilian life.

Marciante died Sept. 20, 2007 in Muqdadiyah, Iraq, of wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle.

Recently the term "Hero" has been over used at the risk of diluting its meaning. If criteria needs to be established in order to identify those who are worthy of the label they should start with people who sacrifice their own lives to save others. Just as a firefighter running into a burning building to rescue someone is a hero, so is the United States service men and women. The world is on fire and American soldiers are running in.

This is not like wars of past generations when forty airplanes, in tight formation, would drop 500 to 1,000 saturation bombs on a single target. America's mission is save lives not take them. The intent of Muslim Jihad Extremists is to bring death and destruction to the civilized world. America has taken on the task of quelling their aggression. The implement of war in this case is the soldier. The concern for the preservation of innocent life overrides the mission to destroy.

This tactic puts the soldiers at extreme risk. It is a difficult conscience decision but the most civilized. Some critics say our military action is too restricting and would like to see America use its full destruction capabilities. But that would be like crushing the burning house and everyone in it to squelch the fire.

The dangers our soldiers face in Iraq is unimaginable to civilians who are secure in the comfort of their lives. There must always be a constant high level of awareness and willingness to take action. The threat of the enemies plan to kill military and civilians alike is constant. Walking away is not an option for the Jihadists pursuit to destroy would not relent.

The toll this war has taken on American lives is devastating. The loss felt by the Peterstown community over the death of Luigi Marciante, or Louie as he was commonly called, will never go away. Family and friends can only search for meaning and never find the proper justification for the sacrifice Louie has made.

It is impossible to measure the potential for lost lives had America not gone to war. It is equally impossible to know if any terrorist attacks would have been made again on American soil. It has been, and certainly still is, the proclaimed mission of the enemy. Each soldier is an equal defense to that threat. They are all heroes. They all face the same risk that Louie did and they all accept it as part of their duty to their country. This acceptance is enough to be deemed a hero.

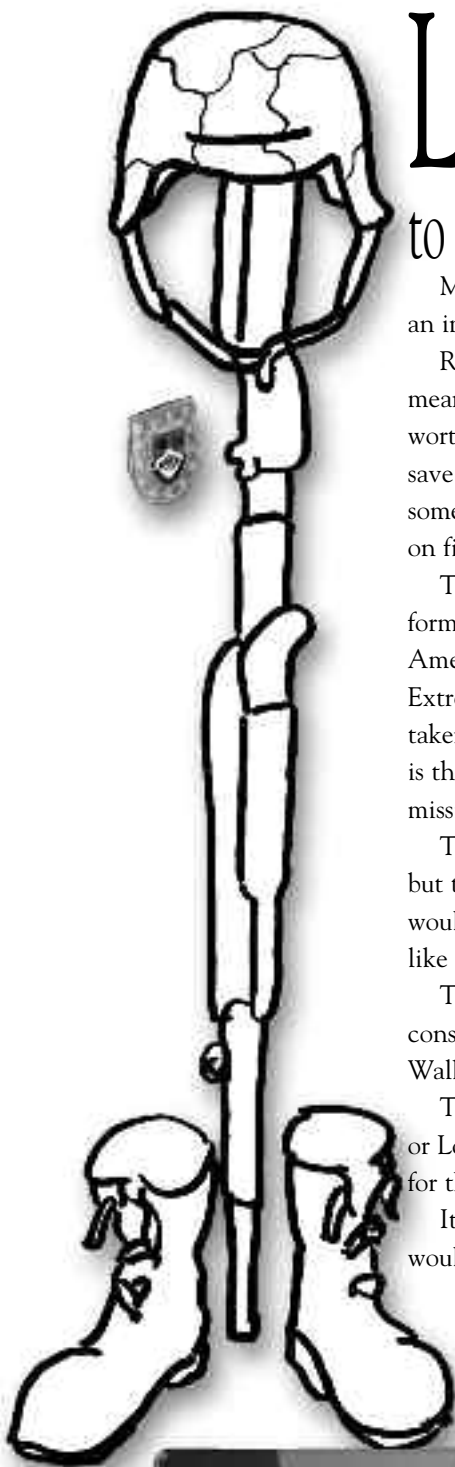


(above) Louie with his wife Stephanie and their son Lorenzo a week before his return to Iraq in September.

Though Peterstown is just a small neighborhood in Elizabeth, NJ it represents thousands of neighborhoods across the country that lost a loved one. There will be an end to the war one day but not before other brave sons and daughters make the ultimate sacrifice. The void left in the hearts of everyone who knew Louie can never be filled. They must hold onto his memory and make sure he is never forgotten.

Louie's wife Stephanie remembers him, in her words, ."my best friend, my husband. A devoted father to his newborn son, Lorenzo. He was a son and brother to be proud of. He loved life, and made the best out of even the worse. His presence could brighten up any room. He was always there when I needed him most. He did everything he could to always keep a smile on my face. He was so proud to be a daddy. He always talked about all the things he had planned to do with his son, and teach him."

(left) Peterstown native Pfc. Luigi Marciante, Jr., died Sept. 20, 2007 supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.





# Around About Peterstown

ELIZABETH NJ

Oct 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



Business owners from Peterstown are a close knit bunch. I was taught by my father the value of working together and supporting others in the community. One of the people in the community who takes that spirit one step further is Luigi Marchiente of Larry's Generators. I met Luigi as a member of UNICO where he served as president. I saw first hand his dedication to the neighborhood. He worked to stimulate business for everyone. He also concentrated his efforts on preserving the Italian-American culture. But his true devotion was to his family and the youth of the neighborhood.

I had the pleasure to know his family and saw that he raised four great kids that made him proud. So it was with a very heavy heart that I mourn the death of his son, Luigi, Jr., who gave his life in the battle fields of Iraq. His loss is felt by the entire community. On behalf of the members of the Sons of Peterstown I express our sincere condolences. May he live in our hearts forever.

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,

My name is Joe Pagano. I was born in Newark, went to St. James Grammar School and then to East Side High School. In my sophomore year we moved to Roselle and I graduated in 1946 from Roselle High. I joined the Army and served in Korea from November 1946 to 1948. After the Army I was able to become a member of Electrician's Local #675, headquartered on 269 Morris Avenue in Elizabeth.

My father, Peter, worked for the Jersey State Electric Company on Broad Street in Elizabeth, next to the firehouse. I worked for the Joe Tomasulo Electric Company from Roselle Park. We did most of the electric work for the Elizabeth schools and the Union County court house.

My first job after my apprenticeship was as foreman for the new St. Anthony's Grammar School in 1956. I and two of my electrician's installed the wiring on the school and enjoyed the daily visits of Father Dominic. He and I would become friends during the job.

When I went back one day for a service call, he brought me into the first class of the new students. He said "Children, this is Joe, he is the man who put all the lights in our new school. Say good morning and thank you to Joe." They all stood up and said "Thank you for our new school lights". I will never forget their little faces. And now I see they are having a 50-year reunion.

I was also foreman on the renovation of the Harmonia Bank. After work I would stop at the open market and bring home the fresh fruit, Italian bread, etc.

I am now retired and have lived in Cranford since 1954. My wife died in 1991 and I have four married children and seven grandsons. I enjoy your paper and know a lot of the people in your stories.

Thanks for the memories.

Joe Pagano  
Cranford, NJ

Dear Mr. Sacco,

Thank you so very much for your most kind and generous donation in honor of Taylor King.

As you may know, Batten disease is a "rare" and "Orphan" brain disease of children and it does not get the attention and research that it deserves. In spite of that, a gene therapy trial recently finished and a stem cell trial is currently underway. The first child in North America to ever receive direct injections of stem cells into the brain was done in November of last year and is doing remarkably well. It gives us great hope that this may be the answer for infantile and late infantile Batten disease.

It is only through the efforts of our families, like the Kings and their family and friends, and the kindness of people like you that we are able to keep research efforts to find a viable treatment moving forward. Thank you for helping us help the children. You are truly "A light in a world of darkens".

Yours truly,

Lance W. Johnston, Executive Director  
Batten Disease Support and Research Association  
Reynoldsburg, OH

Dear Joe Renna,

It was good to read Joe Decarlo's letter to the editor in the August/September issue of *Around About Peterstown*. In fact, Joe even mentioned our family, The Nocera's. I recall quite vividly those 'good ole days' in Peterstown. There was a very strong and enduring sense of community spirit. People knew each other on more than just a casual basis.

Further, neighbors reached out when tragedy struck. Funerals were attended by more than just family and friends. Neighbors attended to pay their respects.

Yes, make no mistake about it...if you were blessed enough to live within this special community we call Peterstown you too feel the pride with having been part of a unique extended family. Having said that, I want to thank the staff of this wonderful paper. What you are doing is CONNECTING all of us who have moved away from Peterstown and especially those who have moved out of state. When we read *Around About Peterstown* we feel closer to our roots and heritage.

I also want to say a special thank you to Brother Jerry (formerly of St. Anthony's church). He was a very committed and dedicated man of God who had a huge influence in my life. Again, he and others like him were what made Peterstown so special.

Feel free to publish my phone and e-mail: (253) 446-0536  
E-Mail summitchristiancenter@hotmail.com

Respectfully,  
John Nocera  
Puyallup, WA

## 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 hope that one of your readers will be able to help me in my search for a 1960 Battin High School Yearbook. I have been trying for several years to acquire a copy and thus far have had no luck.

I grew up in Elizabeth Port in the fifties and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1960. In those days boys went to Jeff, and the girls went to Battin. As I am getting on in years I would like to revisit with some of my classmates from Grover Cleveland Jr. High School.

These days I reside in Aberdeen, Maryland close to my daughters. Twenty-four years in the Armed Forces gave me the chance to travel to many countries around the world. Though I have been far and wide, I will always consider myself a Jersey boy at heart.

Hope to hear from someone who can help soon. Price and shipping can be discussed per collect call.

Respectfully submitted,  
Albert R Hranj, 1st USA Retired  
Aberdeen, Maryland

Dear Albert,

The timing of your letter was uncanny in that I was just contacted by someone who wanted to donate old Battin High School Yearbooks to the newspaper. Steve Nemeckay read about Battin High School reunions from the Aug. 07 issue of this newspaper that he picked up in Spirito's Restaurant and thought that one of our readers would like to have them. Steve Sr.'s wife, Eleanor, nee Zielinski, attended Battin.

He met me at his son Steve's store, "Amazing Heroes," located on Stuyvesant Avenue in Union, NJ. The store, which has been in business fro 20 years, sells comic books, sports cards and toys. Visit amazingheroes.com.

I thought I would be able to fill your request except of the ten Battin yearbooks 1960 was not one. I will continue to keep an eye out for the book you want.

Thank you,  
Joe Renna

(below) Steve Nemeckay handed over 10 Battin High school yearbooks to *Around About Peterstown* from 1933, '38, '40, '42, '43, '49, '51 and 1962. He also turned over yearbooks for Elizabeth's, now defunct, Sacred Heart High (1964, '65), Pingry H.S. (1964), Hillside H.S. (1935, '36 and 1937), Seton Hall Prep (1951) and Ohio's Findlay College (1931 and 1939).





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

This is the problem facing the free world, not just America. I'm confident the greatest minds are addressing these questions, yet I have yet to hear a viable alternative to what our country is doing. I've heard criticism but no plan. There is a convenience to being a critic without having to accept the responsibility of taking decisive action.

The Peterstown community lost a beloved son in the Iraqi war. Luigi Marciante's service to his country was honorable. His contribution will be measured every day that we live free from the threat of terrorism. 🇺🇸🇮🇹

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ADVERTISERS' INDEX

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ADVERTISER	PAGE
All Jersey Realty .....	22
Alliance Plumbing & Heating .....	20
American Plumbing .....	20
Amici's Restaurant .....	19
Bayada Nurses .....	9
Bella Gina's Italian Deli & Restaurant .....	18
Bellissima Pizza .....	18
Benedictine Academy .....	4
Best Dental Group .....	8
Blue Streak Auto Sales .....	5
B & V Jewelers .....	7
Campus Inn .....	19
Candelino Kitchens .....	20
Cervantes of Spain Restaurant .....	19
City of Elizabeth .....	8
City Tavern Restaurant .....	19
Cleveland Auto & Tire .....	15
Colton's Pharmacy .....	9
Corsentino Home for Funerals .....	6
Custom Hair Design .....	7
David Fabbo Construction .....	20
DiBella Financial Group .....	22
DiCosmo's Italian Deli & Catering (Clark) .....	18
Dimensions A Total Salon .....	7
Dr. Nicholas Cicchetti, D.M.D. .....	8
Dr. Philip Delli Santi, P.C. .....	8
Dr. James Genakos .....	9
Dr. Jorge Matos, Orthodontics .....	8
Dr. James J. Mauti, M.D. & Sports Medicine Physician .....	8
Dr. Nicholas Palmieri, Chiropractic Sports Medicine .....	9
Dr. Frank Paternostro, D.M.D. .....	8
Dr. Quah, D.M.D. .....	9
Dr. Joseph M. Schulman, Family Practice .....	9
Drew Memorial Company .....	6
East Coast Computer Care .....	22
Echoqua Italian Bistro .....	17
Elizabeth Auto Wrecking & Auto Glass .....	10
Elizabeth Yellow Cab .....	5
Exit Realty Lucky .....	22
Front Street Smokehouse and Saloon .....	19
Gallicchio Novel .....	4
Garden City Roofing .....	20
Gilligan's Roofing .....	20
Gourmet Deli .....	15
Gran Centurions .....	16
Guided Lillie Antiques and Auctioneers .....	16
Hand to Hand Gym .....	4
Help Wanted - Handyman .....	20
Homeownership Now Seminar .....	22
Jacobson's Distribution Co. .....	21
Jersey Window Factory .....	20
Joanne's Luncheonette .....	18
Law Offices of Antony Carvello, Esq., CPA .....	22
Leonard Funeral Home .....	6
Magic Fountain .....	19
Maria's Brazilian Touch Cleaning .....	20
Mario's Trattoria .....	17
Michelino's Midtown Station Cafe .....	15
Michelino's Pizzeria .....	17
Millennium Home Mortgage .....	22
Miracle Plaza .....	7
Mr. Dependable .....	20
NJ P.C. Pros. Professional Consultants .....	6
O'Donnell Insurance Agency .....	22
Pantagis Renaissance .....	19
Pavel Construction .....	20
Pete's Limosine Service .....	4
Petrucelli Funeral Home .....	6
Pinho's Bakery .....	18
RE/MAX Prestige .....	22
RE/MAX Properties Unlimited .....	23
Richard Lucas Chevrolet Subaru .....	5
Rocco Auto Service .....	15
Sacco's Meat Market .....	16
Santillo's Brick Oven Pizza .....	18
Spirito's Restaurant .....	16
Superior Mortgage .....	22
Tango Insurance .....	15
Tapas of Spain .....	18
Tequila's Grill .....	12
Third Generation Mortgages .....	22
Thunder Auto Body .....	10
Tomasso Brothers .....	22
Tommy's Pizza .....	18
Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center .....	6
Trinitas Hospital .....	10
Video Data Services .....	15
Village Insurance .....	15
Villani Bus Company .....	5
Windsor Diner .....	19
Woodbridge Memorial Gardens .....	7

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Readers are not used to the pages of this newspaper being cramped with advertising. This newspaper runs approximately a 50-50 ratio of advertisement versus articles. Ads always accompany articles and seldom take up more than half the page. An exception was made in this issue so that the pages memorializing Luigi Marchianti, Jr. were free of ads.

Advertisers would much rather share tier page with as few ads as possible, so it is with appreciation that we thank you for understanding the exception made in this issue.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many businesses that support the newspaper as we enter into our tenth year of publication. Readers 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. 📞

.....



readers enjoy our  
advertisements as much  
as they do the articles.

.....

Men Without Redemption

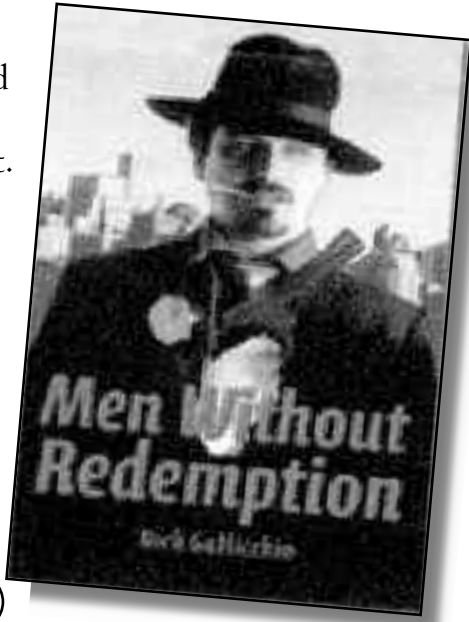
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# SPOTLIGHT ON A FEW ADVERTISERS

## AUTHOR NICK GALLICCHIO

Nick Gallicchio is a retired Union Organizer as well as a 32nd Degree Freemason and a Shriner. Gallicchio currently serves with the New Jersey State Board of Mediation as an arbitrator. Besides penning gripping novels, Gallicchio's passions include boating, baseball, football and chess. During his illustrious career within the American Labor Movement Gallicchio had won ten consecutive arbitration hearings. He was a stalker when it came to negotiating labor agreements. Gallicchio was indeed an innovator and a true Union Labor trailblazer.

Gallicchio has written three novels *Florida Dirty*, *Thy Namesake* and *Men Without Redemption*. The books are available on-line and at local bookstores around Union County. Visit his website, gallicchio999.com for more information and locations.

Nick resides in Kenilworth, NJ with his wife Teresa. They have five children, Angela, Susan, Jeannette, Jennifer and Anthony; and six grandchildren. 🐾



(above, r-l) Nick Gallicchio and grandson, Anthony.

## RICHARD LUCAS CHEVROLET-SUBARU



Richard Lucas is the third generation of the Lucas Family to own the car dealership that his grandfather started in 1925 and operated two locations, Carteret and Woodbridge, NJ.

Richard combined both dealerships into one location on Rts 1 & 9 in Avenel. Keeping the family tradition alive with his brothers, their sons and grandsons following in the family tradition.

Richard Lucas Chevrolet-Subaru dealership joined the Peterstown family of advertisers through Angelo Strazzella, who has worked for Lucas for over ten years. Angelo moved to the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ from Vallata Italy in 1966 and started selling cars in 1979 - always Chevrolets. Angelo has many customers who know him from the neighborhood and he finds this paper a great way to keep in touch with them. 🐾

(left, l-r) Richard Lucas and Angelo Strazzella

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*Thank you,  
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(below) Lucky John used a hydronic press to squeeze juice from grapes for making wine.



(right) The wine making process starts out with crushing grapes in 55 gallon containers where they then sit and ferment.



# SPIRITS RISING IN LAPOLLA'S OLD TAVERN THE NAMESAKE

This past September, neighbors walking past 621 Third Avenue, on the Corner of John Street in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, could catch a whiff of homemade wine easing out of the open basement door. This would not be so surprising if Lapolla's Tavern that operated out of the ground floor was still open; but it wasn't. Hasn't been for over 25 years. The passers-by must think they were imagining the aroma or maybe it was the spirit of the old Tavern revealing itself.

One curious neighbor peaked his head down the stairs and saw that the source of the smell was indeed a remnant of the past being kept alive by John Cassitta.

"Lucky John," as he is better known, is an avid wine maker producing approximately 250 gallons of wine from about 90 cases of grapes a season. He starts the process each year with help from a few friends at the end of September and finishes in a few weeks.



(above) Sal Renna, one of John's helpers opens the door to the old cooler, that once held kegs of beer for Lapolla's Tavern, where bottles of the new vintage will be stored.

Michael Lapolla was born on Third Avenue in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ. He lived his entire life on that block raising a family and operating a tavern on the corner of John Street. He owned liquor license C2, the second one issued in 1933 after the end of prohibition.



Michael Lapolla  
1900-1962

The bar, named "Lapolla's", was popular for several reasons. It was conveniently located in the center of the neighborhood. Shaffer, Reigngold and Peils flowed from the beer taps while the kitchen was busy dishing out Italian specialties like tripe and sheep's head.

It was also popular because Michael himself was a prominent figure in Elizabeth. He was active in Elizabeth politics and public service for 44 years starting right after WWI as a page in the New Jersey Legislature at the age of 18. Lapolla was elected councilman in 1947 and was appointed city treasurer in 1957, a post he held until 1960 when he took a position with the Union County Department of Public Works. Prior to opening the Tavern, Michael used the space as a meeting hall for his political club.

Michael was always accessible to his constituency and his patrons. All they had to do is yell up from the street to his apartment above the Tavern where he lived with his wife Angelina and their two children, Blaise and Rose.

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(above) The popularity of golf after WWII was evident by these neighborhood golfers from Peterstown who assembled in front of Lapolla's Tavern after eating breakfast and before boarding a bus heading to Lakewood Country Club in Woodbury, NJ for the fourth annual golf outing sponsored by the Michael Lapolla Association in 1952. The day included refreshments delivered on the course by golf cart and dinner back at the tavern.

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Mail the Information Request to:  
**Woodbridge Memorial Gardens**  
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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.





(above, l-r) Giuseppe and Caterina Tramuta

## TRAMUTA CELEBRATE 40th ANNIVERSARY

Giuseppe and Caterina Tramuta of Union, New Jersey celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary recently. They were married in St. Theresa's Church on October 19, 1967 in Ribera, Italy.

Giuseppe came to America from Italy in 1964 and Caterina in 1967.

Guiseppe worked with the Labor Union Local 394 for 40 years while Caterina stayed home dedicating herself to being a housewife and mother. Their son Joseph, daughter-in-law Janet and their 2 grandsons Luca and Nicholas celebrated with their parents at Ferrara's Restaurant in Westfield, N.J. 🍷

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Sat., Oct. 27th	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Peterstown Community Center, 409 Palmer St.
Mon., Oct. 29th	10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Kennedy Arms, 70 Westfield Ave.
Wed., Oct. 31st	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Elmora Racquet Club, 23 Fernwood Ter.
Thur., Nov. 1st	6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	City Hall, 50 Winfield Scott Pl.
Mon., Nov. 5th	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Ford Leonard Towers, 77 Division St.
Fri., Nov. 9th	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Farley Towers, 33 Cherry St.
Tue., Nov. 13th	1:00 pm. - 2:30 p.m.	O'Donnell Dempsey Towers, 632 Salem Ave.
Fri., Nov. 16th	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Liberty Square Senior Center, 240 Elizabeth Ave.

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DON PICARA IS LOOKING FOR JOE TAVERMINA’S SON, JOEL

Christine Wilson from Colonia, NJ doesn't know Joel Tavermina, or his father Joe, but she reached out to this newspaper to ask for help in finding him because she knew he was from the Peterstown section of Elizabeth. Christine is helping Don Picaro, who was her neighbor when he lived in Colonia. The 94-year-old Picaro now lives in Sante Fe, New Mexico.

Don is also from Peterstown and was a childhood friend of Joe's. They shared a similar interest in homing pigeons in their youth and it would bond them later in life unexpectedly. They both raced pigeons as members of the Greater Elizabeth Pigeon Club on South 5th Street. Don went into the service in 1942 and lost contact with his buddy Joe who was also in the military.

Picaro's assignment took him to central Europe in the thick of WWII. In 1944 he was in England where he met up with the rest of his Company. To his surprise Joe Tavermina had joined his unit. They were part of the 282nd Signal Corps Pigeon Company. The army used homing pigeons to carry messages. The two men from Peterstown were naturals for the job.

The Army Pigeon Service was located in Ft. Monmouth, NJ. On occasion, before the war, the military pigeons joined in the races run by the local clubs to race against the civilian birds. When it came

time to recruit soldiers for active duty handling the army's pigeons the brass looked up the local pigeon fanciers they met at the events. Picaro and Tavermina were tapped.

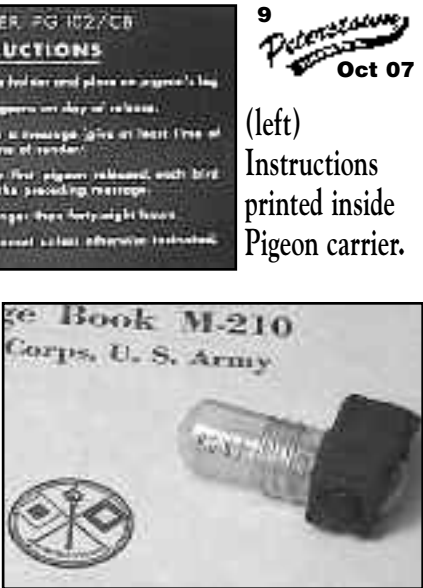
The 282nd was the only Pigeon Company to go to war; most pigeon units went as platoons or squads. The use of pigeons was effective. Their ability to fly home from hundreds of miles away as quickly as they could, in any weather, made them a preferred mode of communication when radio silence had to be maintained or was not available. Pigeons can be dropped behind enemy lines where locals can then send messages back that would assist maneuvers. Stories of pigeons being responsible for saving the lives of soldiers are documented. Accounts of pigeons completing missions in spite of being wounded were also noted.

Picaro and Tavermina were together in five campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944, the biggest battle American soldiers fought in WWII.

Someone who was writing a story about the 282nd contacted Don Picaro. He knew Joe had a son Joel but had no idea how to find him. Don wanted to make sure Joel knew about the story being written. He wants to tell Joel about his father earning 5 Bronze Stars and



(right) Capsule to hold message with band to attach to the pigeons’s leg.



9 Peterstown Oct 07 (left) Instructions printed inside Pigeon carrier.

meritorious service award. Joe was also decorated at Saint Lo near Normandy, France. Eleven pigeoneers were decorated, plus one pigeon.

Picaro doesn't know when the actual written piece will surface, or where, maybe on the Internet. He is happy that the story is being told. There is very little information about the company and much would get lost as oral history. His friend Joe Tavermina has passed away but Don believes he will live through this story being written.

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Since it opened its doors in September 2005, the \$28 million Comprehensive Cancer Center remains the only place in the state that provides patients with the state-of-the-art Trilogy linear accelerator. Trinitas Hospital recently unveiled the state's newest inpatient Cancer Care Unit, complete with 23 private patient rooms, specialized staff and equipment, and patient amenities such as plasma screen televisions. For more information call (908) 994-8000.



## CARDIOLOGY

Trinitas maintains a full-service cardiac facility for the intensive care of patients with heart disease. Patients in need of elective angioplasty services can now undergo this procedure at Trinitas. The hospital has provided emergency angioplasty surgery for several years with superior outcomes. For more information call (908) 994-5695.



## MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

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# IN LOVING MEMORY OF LUIGI MARCIANTE, JR. 1982 - 2007



There is no greater tribute to Luigi Marciante than the words of his loving wife Stephanie. Their entire time together on this earth was brief, just 15 months, but they shared a love for each other that was timeless.

Together they lived life to the fullest, as if each minute was a year. In the wake of his heroic death on the battlefield of Iraq, Stephanie has reflected on their time together and has written her thoughts down to share with those who cared for Louie. She can recall every day with him, from when they first met to their finale phone call.

Stephanie's beautifully written remembrance of Louie

paints a picture of who he was: a loving husband and father, a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country, and a person dedicated to family and friends. Louie was generous and compassionate. His every action was for the welfare of others.

Those who cared for Louie are grateful to Stephanie for sharing a piece of her heart and soul during a very troubling time. The love shared between Stephanie, Louie and their son Lorenzo is inspirational. Those who knew him are better because of it. It is imperative that he is remembered and it is a duty for all to continue in his way of spreading good will. 🌸

## LOUIE WAS MY EVERYTHING

*Stephanie Marciante recounts her life with Louie, the love they shared with each other and their son Lorenzo*

We met at Ft. Lewis, WA. We were both stationed there. Louie was assigned to the 2nd Battalion 23rd Infantry Regiment 4th Brigade 2nd Infantry Division. I was assigned to the 54th Military Police Company. I guess it was just fate for us to find each other, since we had to do so clear across the country. I'm from Brick, NJ and Louie was from Elizabeth, NJ. There was another reason for each of us to join the US Army, besides to each better ourselves. We found each other in the US Army.

Who thinks they are going to find the love of their life in the Military? When I met Louie for the first time, on June 30, 2006. Louie made me feel in a way I can't even explain. He was a sweetheart from our first hellos. We didn't officially start to date one another until July 10, 2006. And I know that for a fact because I had bought one of the little rice necklaces, and on the grain of rice was Louie's name and the date we started dating. I wore that around my neck for the longest time. We only spent a month and nine days together before we exchanged our wedding vows. But those 39 days were ones I cannot even put into words. Louie made me the happiest I have ever been. He made me feel alive again. Earlier that year before meeting Louie my unit was deployed to Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. And even though my tour was a short one, it was the worst experience in my life. And just a couple months after I returned to the states, there was Louie. Louie was so much fun. He made me laugh and made me smile. We had so much - actually everything in common. It was a bit scary actually. We were two peas in a pod. Well, we were married on August 19th, 2006. It was a Saturday. We married in Lakewood, WA. Right outside of Tacoma, WA. By the end of that month we had moved out of barracks and into our first apartment in

moved. We were so happy to be living together, and not in my barracks room! Our own apartment finally. So many good memories were made in that apartment.

January 9th, we found out that we were pregnant. Louie was ecstatic to find out that he was going to be a father. I knew he was going to be the best dad ever. From the day we found out we were expecting, Louie would read a bedtime story every night to the little one in my belly. It was the sweetest thing ever. Every night, until the night we found out that he had to have his bags packed and ready to get on the bird headed for Iraq.

My heart dropped when I found out he had to leave the baby and me. It was early morning on May 3, 2007 when I had to give him that goodbye hug and kiss. I was an emotional wreck when he left. I loved him so much, and it ate me up to see him leave. Before then, we were never apart. I wrote him a letter for everyday that he was gone, and sent him a package once a week, so it wouldn't be that bad for him over there. I worried about him everyday until he arrived at JFK Airport on August 5, 2007, to start his 18 days of R&R that the Army allotted him. The Army was kind enough to give him his leave to coincide with my due date of August 12th. We spent our days before the baby catching up and swimming in the pool. Louie loved the pool, he was like a fish. On August 9, 2007 I went in to Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, NJ, to start my induction. I wanted to make sure Louie was present for the birth of his son. So I was induced. It wasn't until August 11, 2007 at 12:51am, that our son Lorenzo Anthony Marciante was born. Louie was the first one to hold him. Louie was finally a daddy, and beamed with pride looking at his son. Now I had my

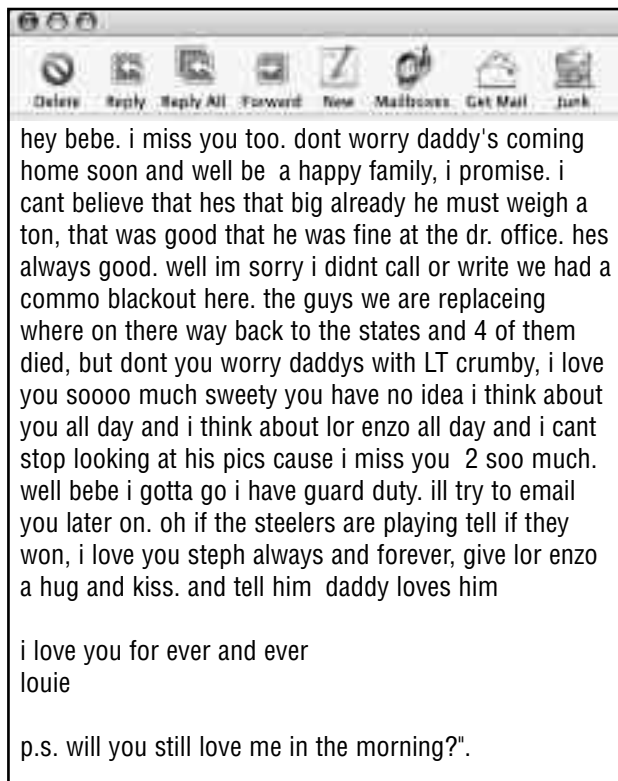


(above) Louie feeding Lorenzo.

boys. All I could ever ask for. Louie stayed with me every night in the hospital until I was discharged. He never left me; he was there for me, just like he always was. Three days after Lorenzo was born we finally got to leave the hospital. I don't think I ever saw Louie that nervous driving, other than the day he had his son in the car for the first time. Louie spent every second he could with

Lorenzo while he was home. He was eating up fatherhood, and telling Lorenzo all the things his daddy was going to teach him. On Friday, August 24, 2007, Louie had a 6:40am flight out of Newark to start his journey back to Iraq. The last day I ever got to hug him and give him a kiss, and whisper in his ear how much I loved him. That was the last day I ever got to feel his

touch. After painfully letting go of him that morning, he called from Iraq a few times when he got back. He called me on Monday, September 10, 2007, at 10:02am our time. I spoke to him for 15 minutes and fifty-nine seconds. I told him how big Lorenzo was getting and how much we missed him, and how much we loved him. He told me he just got the package I had mailed to him. Who would have thought, but that was the last day that I would hear his voice, the last day ever, that I would hear him tell me that he loved me. It was five days later that I received what would become his last email ever. And in that last email he wrote to me:



That was the last time I heard form Louie. His last words to me. I will keep them forever. 🌸



(above, l-r) Stephanie and Louie in their class A's, November 2006.

(right) Their first photo together, at the lake on Ft. Lewis. July 22, 2006.

(far right) May 3, 2007 with Lorenzo on the way.







# A FINAL SALUTE TO L

## A HERO'S HONOR

After receiving visitors in Corsentino's Funeral Home the casket of Luigi Marciante was prepared for its journey to its final resting place. On September 28, 2007 Luigi Marciante was laid to rest in Brigadier General William C. Doyle Memorial Cemetery located in Arneytown, NJ.

Corsentino's Funeral Home and St. Anthony's Church are located in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth, NJ, a close-knit Italian neighborhood where the Marciante family planted their roots

Louie's mother Maria, nee Zeppieri, came to America on January 29, 1962. She was 17 years old and her first American address was 806 Third Avenue, right above Sacco's Meat Market. His father Luigi followed on April 1, 1968 to marry her. They were married on July 6, 1968 at St. Anthony's. They lived on Centre Street, in the shadow of the church. They had four children, Accursio, Ronnie, Enza and Louie who was the youngest.

In the fashion that is Peterstown, the entire community turned out to honor Louie and console his family. Louie was an American soldier and so the community was joined with people far beyond the little enclave in Elizabeth. They to arrived en masse.

It was early morning when visitors arrived at the funeral home. Military officials were already in place working with local police coordinating the daylong procession to the church and cemetery. Honor guards representing various law enforcement agencies and fire departments stood at attention. State troopers, sheriff officers, and police from various municipalities were represented including Jackson, where the Marciante's now live. It was the Elizabeth Police Department, however, who made things run smoothly.

The procession route around town was void of any parked cars. The massive caravan following the hearse had to be managed as it snaked through the streets of Elizabeth, past his old home, his grammar school, Abraham Lincoln School

#14, Hamilton Jr. High and past Elizabeth High School from where Louie graduated in 1999. Students lined the street in front of their schools as the motorcade rolled by.

The pews in the church were full with friends and neighbors along with dignitaries, including the Governor of New Jersey, Jon Corzine. The service was presided over by Bishop Marconi. In addition to the gospel reading a message was delivered by military personnel in praise of Louie's service and sacrifice. The congregation sat as his wife read a poem and each of his siblings shared their own eulogy.

The drive from the church to the cemetery used the New Jersey Turnpike. Exits were closed along the way to allow the line of over 100 cars and twenty motorcycles to move uninterrupted. Word traveled via cell phone that the funeral procession was on the move. Along the highway truckers pulled their rigs over and stood along side their cabs as the hearse passed by, some saluting others holding flags. 🇺🇸

## ACCURSION

*We are here today because we care and love. We are here because our connection with Louie was a connection based on family, friendship, love and having a good time wherever the occasion brought you together like a family function, bowling, parties or Dee-Jaying clubs.*

*I was always Louie's big brother. I checked his homework, helped out with studying, gave him some tips on balancing his checkbook but I didn't have to tell him to clean his plate. He had one heck of an appetite as plenty of people in the room can say yes to, right Ron?*

*Louie joined up with me at the martial arts dojo where I trained in Aikido. I introduced him to my training buddies as my "little" brother and I can't tell you how many times I was told, "Little Brother? He's bigger than you!" So I thought about it for a bit - its time for a change - from now on he is my younger brother and no longer little and I was his older brother instead of big brother.*

*Change brought him and our family to the U.S. Army - Infantry Division - their motto "Follow Me". He brought us to Fort Benning Georgia for Basic Training where we attended*



(left-right, top-bottom) Elizabeth High School R.O.T.C. Color Guard, Elizabeth Motorcycle Police officers, St. Anthony's P U.S. Servicemen, Banner hanging on Elizabeth High School, Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums, The Patriot law enforcement agencies, Elizabeth Officer Vito Tropeano, Procession leaving Corsentino's Funeral Home, St. Anthony's C



# LUIGI MARCIANTE, JR.

13  
Peterstown  
Oct 07

## PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

The simple statement from the Department of Defense announced the death of a soldier who was supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Pfc. Luigi Marciante Jr., 25, of Elizabeth, N.J., died Sept. 20, 2007 in Muqadiyah, Iraq, of wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Fort Lewis, Washington.

Everyone knows there are volumes to be written about Louie, the lives he has touched and the positive effect his life and sacrifice will have.

In 2004, at 21 years old, Louie took charge of his life, setting goals and following through. He had aspirations of becoming a police officer like his father was, a Carabinieri,

in his hometown of Sciacca, Sicily.

Part of his plan was to serve his country in the military. He knew the risks that were involved but he also knew the rewards. Louie had the heart of a patriot and considered it an honor to serve.

In 2005, Louie was stationed in Fort Lewis, Washington. Three thousand miles away from home, the people he loved and the life he was used to. His saving grace came in the form of Stephanie Busby, a military police officer from Brick, NJ.

The attraction was equally intense and mutually instantaneous. The couple jibed in all aspects of their interests and values. It was just two months after meeting that they married, in August 2006.

In April of 2007, Stephanie was pregnant with their son Lorenzo when Louie got deployed to Iraq. Stephanie, who served a year in Iraq herself, was sad to see him leave. He returned five months later, on August 5, to witness the birth of his baby on August 11 and have him Baptized. It was a jubilant eighteen days for Louie. It made returning to Iraq emotionally difficult but sharpened his sense of completing his mission so he could return to his family.

In less than a month's time Stephanie heard the news of Louie's death. With the same swiftness that she found the love of her life she lost him.

Stephanie is a remarkable person who has accepted her fate with the emotional strength the military taught her. Louie will, no doubt, live in her heart and she will pass aspects of his fine character on to Lorenzo. 🇺🇸

## 'S EULOGY

*his graduation ceremony ever so proud. Louie and I talked while on base - he talked hours about military protocols, procedures, weaponry and sweeping patterns. I could not get a word in and why bother? I just sat back and watched my younger brother shine in his moment of glory. I told him that I was so proud of him and his accomplishments - he did this on his own.*

*Change once again brought him to Fort Lewis Washington where he attended specialized training. We visited him and he was cool, standing tall and becoming more confident. I just said to myself "Wow, his star is starting to shine."*

*We then found out that he met a certain special someone on base from NJ - Miss Stephanie Busby. We found out that they were dating, fell in love, got engaged and were married in August of last year. We met Stephanie last Christmas and just saw the magic between the two - in person and in wonderful pictures. Their love brought into the world the birth of their son Lorenzo Anthony with mommy and daddy at his side.*

*Louie's star was shining so bright...  
An eagle he was that took to flight...*

astor Fr. Pat Diver and Bishop Marconi, Peterstown residents ,  
Guard Motorcycle Clubs, Honor Guard representing various New Jersey  
Grammar School students, Procession entering St. Anthony's Church .





## PHOTOS FROM MARCIANTE FAMILY ALBUM



Guests at the reception had a chance to express their wishes of a safe return to Luigi Marciante, Jr. who was shipped to Iraq in the service of his county. The entire community is praying for the quick and safe return of Luigi and all our soldiers in harms way.

(left, l-r) Luigi and his buddies, Salvatore DiGirolamo, Giovanni "Dalish" Damiani, Luigi Marciante Jr. and Beniamino Farina.

(above) This photo and caption appeared in the October 04 issue of Around About Peterstown.



(above, r-l) Louie and brother-in-law Rich,



(above) Louie and friends gather before his deployment.



(above, l-r) Standing behind the counter at Louie's father's business, "Larry's Generators" in Elizabeth, brother Ronnie, cousin Frankie, Luigi Sr. and Louie.



(above, l-r) Louie's cousin Frankie, Zia Mafalda, Louie and Zio Felix.



(above, l-r) Louie with his Sister-in-Law Renee and niece Sarah.



(above, l-r) Louie's mom Maria, wife Stephanie and Louie.



(above, l-r) Lorenzo's Baptism: Louie's niece Alessandra, brother Ronnie, Louie, Stephanie and Lorenzo. Godmother Enza, and Stephanie's brother Godfather, AJ.



(above, l-r) The Marciante siblings, Accursio, Enza, Ronnie and Louie.

## A NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO HONORED CPL. LUIGI MARCIANTE, JR. AND HELPED HIS FAMILY COPE WITH THEIR LOSS

It is in times of deep sadness and loss that the true meaning of community and family can be defined. With the news of CPL Luigi Marciante Jr's passing on September 20, 2007 the community of not only Elizabeth and New Jersey but that of the Nation came together to memorialize a true American hero. Luigi's story and legacy drew crowds by the hundreds to show their respect and admiration to the family. The Marciante and Busby families are humbled and most appreciative of all of the genuine and moved individuals who have been affected by "Louie".

It has been due in large part to everyone's support that we have been able to pay tribute to Louie, our beloved husband, father, son, and brother in the way that he truly deserves. We would like to thank everyone for their emails and letters as well as their donations for Lorenzo. Our sincere thanks go out to the local and national media as well for covering Louie's story both respectfully and honorably.

We would like to thank the endless amount of community members who came from near and far to show their admiration and respect to Louie. We are so thankful for this opportunity to be able to give thanks to the many individuals and organizations that have helped us honorably capture the essence of Louie's life. Individuals have reached out from the military, local police enforcements and fire departments, government and many other agencies. And for that we are eternally grateful.

We would like to give special thanks to the Army, Casualty Assistance Officers: Chief Warrant Officer

Michael Ginquitti, Sergeant First Class Warren Head and Sergeant First Class Jeffrey Oliver who escorted Louie home to us, Army Chaplain Colonel Wayne Kirk and to Major General David H. Huntoon who eulogized Louie at his funeral. War Veterans, The Patriot Guard and members of the multiple motorcycle clubs that participated in the motorcade as well as VFW of Jackson and Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums.

It is with deepest appreciation that the following political and community figures showed their respect to both Louie and our family: Governor Corzine, Senator Lautenberg, Senator Lesniak, Congressman Menedez, Mayor Chris Bollwage, Councilman Manny Grova, Councilman Angelo Stallone and to the many other who remained nameless but not overlooked. We ask that the memory of Louie stays with you and that his story may be shared wherever the opportunity presents itself to make a difference.

To the Elizabeth Police Department, Elizabeth Fire Department, City of Elizabeth Public Works and Elizabeth Board of Education, Jackson Police Department, Jackson Fire Department, US Customs and Border Protection, Newark Police Department. Union County Sheriff's Department, NJ State Troopers, Associazione Nazionale Carabinieri d'Italia Sezione di New York, and all other security agencies that protected and assisted our family over the last several weeks, thank you.

Lastly to Carl Corsentino of Corsentino Funeral Home, Emilio & Liz Rangone of Flowers by Emilio, John Sacco, George Marretta, Detective Vito Tropeano,

UNICO Chapters, St. Anthony's Church and Deacon Joe Caporazzo who have delicately and compassionately assisted our family during this truly difficult time.

We are so humbled by the many individuals who have sent donations to Louie's son Lorenzo as well as a special thanks to Bank of America who has been receiving and processing Lorenzo's donations for us.

***Stephanie & Lorenzo Marciante***



A fund has been set up to help in the upbringing of Luigi's son, Lorenzo. If anyone is interested in making a donation to Lorenzo Anthony Marciante please make checks payable to:  
Lorenzo Anthony Marciante,  
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HOLY HOT ROD BATMAN!  
WHAT A GREAT CAR SHOW

Mike LoBrace, owner of Michelino's, is also the president of the Historic Midtown Elizabeth Special Improvement District, which, together with Bad Influence Auto Squad, held its second annual car show on August 18. Congratulations must go out to Mike for hosting such a successful show which combined classic and custom cars.

Cars were parked along the curbs of Elizabethtown Plaza and in the adjacent parking lot, including "The King" from the Disney Pixcar movie "Cars". A live band played Rock and Roll music and the Batmobile posed for pictures. Car show enthusiasts are already looking forward to next year's show.

Batman was a big hit, played by Newark Police Detective Genaro Ortiz, Jr. His personal, award winning 2002 Batmobile is equipped with an array of lights and crime fighting gadgets. Ortiz serves in the NPD Community Outreach Unit and participates in D.A.R.E. and safety programs throughout New Jersey. He offers schools and communities educational programs about the dangers of drugs and violence. Besides performing as Batman, Ortiz also delivers his message on stage via a magic show. Information about the Newark Police Community Outreach Unit can be found at [www.newarkpd.org](http://www.newarkpd.org) or by calling 973-733-6188.



(above, l-r) Lizzette Rodriguez, Raymond Del Valle and Thelmo Corazon of Michelino's Pizzeria.

(right, l-r) Dominic Sacca teamed up with Batman to impress show-goers with their physiques and crime-fighting prowess.



(below) A featured car at the "Classic Meets Custom" car show was John Covino's 1929 Model A Ford.

Not for Nothing But...

next to Batman's six pack, Dominic's abs look more like a keg.



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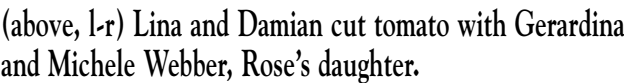
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The process is not complex but must be done

The operation seems more like a party than it does a day of work. It just proves the old adage, "If you like what your doing, its' not work." And being with each other is what this family likes best. Nobody loved his or her job more than Damian because he was next to Lina the entire time. Damian, because he was Polish in this Italian setting, was wondering if he passed muster. He must have really impressed Lina's family. Next year he gets to stir the pot. 🍷🍷



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(above, l-r) Gerarda and Gerardina.\*

\* Gerarda and Gerardina are best friends who are always together, and they have the exact same name, Gerardina Chirichello. Gerarda used her variation of the name so not to confuse people in conversation. Most people think they are sisters, and the Gerardinas usually don't correct them. The bond they have is as strong as any pair of biological siblings could have.



(above, l-r) Family friend Frank Palacios and Gerardina's husband Antonio Milano.



(left) Finished jars are set upside-down to cool. The clan also jars tomatoes that are just boiled and peeled to be used in cooking.



(above, l-r) Lina's father Tony with Rose's husband Stephen Webber.

## Not for Nothing But...

the process they use to make gravy would even impress Henry Ford.

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## Recipes

Submitted by Daniel Palacio, owner of Tapas of Spain - Elizabeth, NJ

### Escargots Bourguignonne

(in the style of Burgundy, as in France)

#### INGREDIENTS

(4 Servings)

##### For Garlic Butter:

2 Tablespoons chopped fresh parsley  
2 Cloves garlic, finely minced  
1/2 Teaspoon Dijon mustard  
Freshly ground white pepper to taste  
1 1/2 Sticks unsalted butter, softened  
1/2 Teaspoon Worcestershire sauce  
1/2 Teaspoon cognac

##### For Escargots:

24 Canned snails, drained  
1 Medium shallot finely chopped  
1 Tablespoon dry sherry  
Salt to taste  
French baguette slices

#### PREPARATION:

##### For Garlic Butter:

- 1) Combine the parsley, garlic and mustard in a food processor and season with white pepper. Process for 1 minute.
- 2) Add 1 stick of butter, the Worcestershire sauce and cognac, and process for 2 minutes.
- 3) Transfer the butter mixture to a small bowl and set aside.

##### For Garlic Butter:

- 1) Rinse the snails in a small colander under cold running water. Drain and pat dry with paper towels.
- 2) In a sauté pan, heat the remaining 1/2 stick of butter over medium heat.
- 3) Add the shallot and cook, stirring, until softened and translucent.

- 4) Add the snails and sauté until completely heated through, about one minute.
- 5) Stir in the sherry and season with salt and pepper. Remove from the heat and let cool.
- 6) Preheat the oven to 400. Transfer the snails to shells or to snail plates (if using the shells, divide them among 4 ovenproof dishes). Cover each snail completely with the reserved butter mixture.
- 7) Bake for a few minutes, or just until the snails are hot and the butter is completely melted and brown on top (do not over bake or the flavor of the butter will be compromised). Serve immediately with slices of the French baguette for dipping.



(left) The party room at Tapas of Spain located on Rts 1&9 in Elizabeth, NJ. Owner Daniel Palacio submitted recipes of two dishes served in the restaurant. He explained that Spanish food has Mediterranean influences. For instance, the caracoles (snails) are very popular in Spain & France and the fish dish is cooked in different regions of Spain. He would serve the Escargots Bourguignonne as appetizer and the Baked Halibut on Savoy Cabbage as main course.

## Baked Halibut and Savoy Cabbage

#### INGREDIENTS

(4 Servings)

1 Teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil  
1/2 cup thinly sliced red onion  
4 4-ounce (114 g) Halibut steaks  
(Note: A good substitute for halibut is salmon.)  
1/2 Cup dry white wine or fish stock  
1/2 Teaspoon freshly ground black pepper  
4 Sprigs lemon thyme  
or 1/2 teaspoon dried lemon thyme  
8 Savoy cabbage leaves  
1/2 Cup plain nonfat yogurt  
2 Teaspoons prepared horseradish  
1 Lemon, quartered

#### PREPARATION:

- 1) In a large nonstick pan with a lid, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the onion and cook, stirring, until softened and translucent, 4 to 5 minutes.
- 2) Lay the halibut steaks in a single layer over the onion and add the wine or fish stock. Season with the pepper and lemon thyme. Cover tightly and cook until the fish is opaque and heated though, about 15 minutes.
- 3) Meanwhile, place the cabbage leaves in the top of a steamer set over 1 inch of boiling water. Cover and steam until the leaves soften but are still a vivid green, 8 to 10 minutes.
- 4) To serve, arrange 2 cabbage leaves on each plate. Center the halibut and onion over them and ladle some of the cooking liquid over the halibut. In a small bowl, combine the yogurt and horseradish. Spoon a dollop of the horseradish sauce on to each piece of halibut, garnish with a lemon wedge and serve immediately.

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It is the hopes of the club that through the years the event will grow into a significant celebration of the holiday, giving Columbus his just due.

It was refreshing to see so many young faces at the dinner. The children of club members and their freinds did all the serving and busing of tables. Volunteering to help was very comendable.

Not for Nothing But...  
the last place I would  
be on a Saturday night  
would be waiting tables  
for my dad's club.



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(above) Ribera Club member Castagna Onofrio is posing with his wife next to a picture he painted of ruins of a castle found in Ribera, Italy.

(right) The painting will hang in the new clubhouse which is near completion.

# PHOTOS FROM THE RIBERA CLUB PICNIC

This year's Ribera Club picnic featured a walk-through of the new, soon to be finished, clubhouse located next to the Peterstown Community Center on Palmer Street, off Fourth Avenue.

(right, l-r) Fr. Richard Crager, Deacon Joe Caporaso, President Peter Agliata, and Secretary Jack Miceli.



(above, l-r) Working the grill were Anthony Veneziano, Joe Mirabile, Carmelo Marabella, Chairman Carmelo Caterinicchia, Joe Miceli, Charly Mirabile & Treasurer Jimmy Fodera.

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(above) Pellow, Regina and Laura



(above) Jackie and Dominick Magliano



Josephine Tagliavore



(right, l-r)Gianna, Sharon, Filippo, Maria and Stephanie Sortizza.  
(below) Having fun with face painting.



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(right) Patsy and Evelyn Nardone on their wedding day in 1957.



(above) The Nardone's celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007.

# COACH AND MRS. NARDONE CELEBRATE 50th

Patsy and Evelyn Nardone celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, September 22, 2007, at a gala party hosted by their children, Lynn Nardone-Paley, and Patrick Nardone.

Father Pat Diver of Saint Anthony's of Padua church in Elizabeth blessed their 50 years of marriage along with 150 family members and friends. Patsy and Evelyn were married August 31, 1957, at Saint Anthony's.

Mr. Nardone was employed by Wakefern Food Corp., in Elizabeth for 25 years. He left in 1983 to open a business with his wife Evelyn, who had been working for Garylin Togs in Elizabeth for 20 years. After leaving their jobs, they decided to open a bar and restaurant business which they eventually retired from in 1998, turning the business over to their children.

Upon their retirement, Patsy and Evelyn lived in Las Vegas, until September 11, 2001, when they returned to New Jersey permanently to be closer to their family and friends. They now reside in the Elmora Hills section of Elizabeth.

Coach Nardone taught basketball on a number of levels. He started in the industrial leagues, city leagues, on to grammar school, JV, and finally high school varsity for many years. Coach Nardone takes great pride in the


fact he coached our very own Saint Anthony's until the late 70's. During his coaching years, he was involved with starting up the City's Pee-Wee Basketball league, of which, at that time, there were 15 Catholic schools in Elizabeth participating. He never turned away a kid that wanted to play basketball. Coach Nardone led many of our local boys to championships during his reign. Coach Nardone later went on to coach JV Basketball at Saint Patrick's High School in Elizabeth, and was an assistant to Buzzy Fox at the varsity level. Coach Nardone then left Saint Patrick's to accept the Varsity Head Coach position at Saint Mary's High School in Perth Amboy.

Behind every good man, there is a great woman, and Patsy had Evelyn, who stood beside him, helping him with anything he needed to be successful. Evelyn also contributed her time to Saint Anthony's Bingo, CYO, and numerous other school functions.

Patsy and Evelyn are members of Saint Anthony's of Padua Church and the Retired Men and Woman's Club at the Peterstown Community Center. Patsy was recently honored by the Sons of Peterstown in June of 2006.

Patsy and Evelyn are very proud of their 5 grandchildren, Jaclyn, Justin, Kimberly, Montana and Chad, and are expecting a sixth in December 2007.

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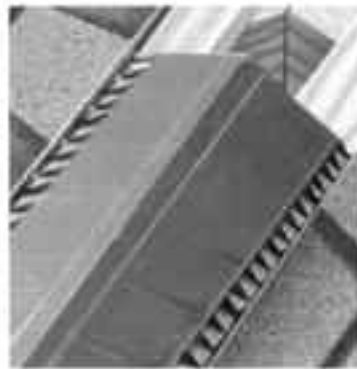
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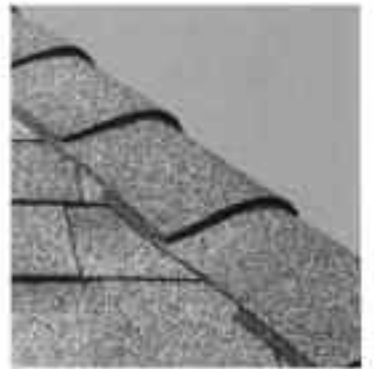
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