

LITTLE ITALY NEWS AUGUST 2009 EDITION

www.littleitalytroy.org

troylittleitaly@gmail.com

Quadracentennial Celebration Troy Little Italy

September 24, 2009 Noon to 8 PM

We have many exciting events planned for the day. Go back in time to 1909 with Michael Esposito's historical exhibit using the Sanborn Maps of our area and a video on the history of the neighborhood.

Visit the food court and sample dishes prepared by several ethnic groups including: Irish, German, Italian, French, Ukrainian, Lebanese, Jewish, and African American

The Henry Hudson exhibit will be presented by Questar III and Troy's own DEFY group. Anthony DeFazio, principal of Questar III will have his Culinary Arts teacher James Rhoades and his students serving the same meals of Venison and rabbit stew that the crew of the Halfmoon dined on. Joe Mix teacher of construction technology and his students will do a demonstration. The DEFY group will be painting the ship the Halfmoon on the Market wall traveling up the Hudson River and scenes of what they encountered on the way.

Quadracentennial Plans

On Wednesday, July 22nd representatives from ethnic and immigrant groups gathered to make plans for the September 24th Quadracentennial event to be hosted by Troy Little Italy in the MarketPlace on Hill Street. The next planning meeting will be held Wednesday, August 12 at the Friehofer Run for Women Headquarters, corner of Fourth and Washington, at 7 pm. We need volunteers to assist in several areas of planning and implementation.



"City—Wide Garage Sale"

And

Red Front Restaurant Bar B Q

August 15, 2009

9 am to 4 pm

Bar B Q will be served from 11am to 4 pm

*Hot Meatball Subs - Sausage & Peppers - Hot Dogs - Hamburgers - Salad - Drinks
Reasonable Prices*



Rent a space to sell your items Only \$20.00 Andrea 470-7369

Photo Gallery



Italian Night at the Joe Bruno Stadium

The food was great, the game was exciting and the fireworks were spectacular



South Central Drop in Center

The Volunteers

Guitar Hero and Wii

Lunch Time

Thank you to all who participated in the planning of our drop in center especially the Sage Colleges for letting us use the center as our location, Rensselaer County for providing the lunch program and the Police Athletic League for providing activities.

Special thanks to the volunteers who gave up their time: Aaron and Davia Collington, Coach Nobles from Troy High School, Dani Drews from Sage, Colleen Goldston, Jerry Favata, Beverly Maloney, Tyler Sally, J.R. Hathaway, Sam Rivet, Marion Field, Officers Malloy, Harrington, Magnetto, Southworth, Rivet, Andy for kickboxing and the City of Troy for the Game truck,



Cinema Under the Stars

(Il cinema Sotto le Stelle)

at The MarketPlace on Hill St. in Troy's LITTLE ITALY



SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF LITTLE ITALY,
A. DEFAZIO IMPORTS & PIZZERIA

Starting in August, we pay tribute to Sophia Loren with three wonderful films. Before Catherine Zeta-Jones and Angelina Jolie, there was Sophia Loren, and there's only one Sophia Loren, a woman who said "Everything you see I owe to spaghetti."

Sophia Loren, an Academy Award-winning actress, who has had an illustrious career for more than 55 years. She's currently working on the movie "Nine" in Rome with Academy Award winning actor Daniel Day Lewis.

Friday, August 21st

Ettore Giannini's "Carosello Napoletano"

A young Sophia Loren makes a guest appearance, along with some of Italy's most popular tenors of the time, in this Cannes Film Festival winner which celebrates Italian song and the city of Naples. 1954

Friday, September 18th

Christian-Jaque's "Madame Sans-Gene"

Sophia Loren, the outspoken, rambunctious laundress of an unknown lieutenant, Napoleon, later becomes part of Emperor Napoleon's court when she marries a soldier elevated to Duke by the Emperor. 1962

Friday, October 23rd

Vittorio De Sica's "I Girasoli (Sunflower)"

After her husband (Marcello Mastroianni) is declared MIA while fighting in Russia during World War II, his widow (Loren) searches records and cemeteries, only to learn he is alive and remarried. 1970

Films at 8:45 pm, BYO Chair

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO TECHNICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL DIFFICULTIES, THE RAIN SITE OF THE GASHOLDER BUILDING IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE. THE NEW RAIN SITE WILL BE AT FLAVOUR CAFÉ AT 228 FOURTH STREET. IN CASE OF RAIN, FILMS WILL BE SHOWN AT 7PM.

IN CASE OF RAIN: FLAVOUR CAFÉ at 7:00pm.

National Night Out 2009

A Great Success

Our third annual NNO celebration was held on August 4th in the Little Italy Market. We had a wonderful turnout of over 100 residents and volunteers. Many residents marched from School 12 to the market while others made sure their lights were on at home all in an effort to bring community safety awareness to all.

Residents who attended had an opportunity to tour the City of Troy's Emergency Response van, sample some great Gelato, enjoy pizza, play in a bouncy bounce, have their picture ID taken and listen to some great music. Kids in attendance also received a free backpack full of school supplies and informative safety materials.

A special Thank You goes out to all of our volunteers and the local businesses that donated to the night's festivities:

- FUNFLOATABLES - Bounce Ride
- Dave Disisto- DJ
- Mayor Harry Tutunjian
- City of Troy Community Police
- Council President Clem Campana
- Councilman John Brown
- Councilman Peter Ryan
- Councilman Ken Zalewski
- Troy Housing Authority Golf Committee
- Troy Little Italy Association
- CD Burners
- DeFazio's
- Tri City ValleyCats
- Gellataria Lisa
- National Crime Prevention Council
- South Central Troy Neighborhood Watch
- South Troy / Osgood Neighborhood Watch
- Westside Waterfront Weed & Seed

NNO PHOTOS



**Posing for Pictures
And
The Walk/Bikeathon
From
School 12**



Meatball Eating Contest Winners

Youth Division

Kierrah Francis 8 yrs. old
Gabe Woodley 11 yrs. Old

Adult Division

Tony DeFiglio



South Central & Little Italy in the news

The Record

July 5, 2009, p16, Daily Historian. 1928 photo submitted by Mario and Joe Dinovo of "Topsy" Piscatella, Katherine Manno-Renna, Dominick and Sam Dinovo, James Teno, Rose Consuello, Jeanette Teno and "Pookie" Pasinella.

July, 20, 2009, p5. Stickball returns to Troy by Tom Caprood. Twelve teams of 6 to 10 players are being formed to play stickball on Sunday and Monday evenings at the MarketPlace on Hill Street in Troy's Little Italy neighborhood. Rocky DeFazio and other organizers continue to host the popular urban game until September 14 when it is expected that a fund-raising tournament will be held.

July 24, 2009, p2. five questions . . . Fourth Street resident Tim Haskins, is photographed and interviewed by Mike McMahon, about his home based business, Love of Wood, a custom furniture shop. Tim can be contacted at his website: www.fortheloveofwoodllc.com.

July 25, 2009, p2. five questions . . . Fourth Street resident Andrea Daley, photographed by Tom Killips, is interviewed by Tom Caprood about her home based businesses Restoration Specialist. Andrea, an active member of Troy's Little Italy community is an artist and maintains a showroom and studio in a home she and her husband restored and rehabilitated.


Troy's Little Italy book available


A limited supply of the book depicting the pictorial history of Troy's Little Italy by Michael Esposito is still available for sale at the Hill Street Farmers' Market on Wednesday's and at DeFazio's Import store. Market Block Books, M.O.S.S Bookstore, Clement's Frame and Art Shop, the Rensselaer Union, Samaritan Hospital Gift Store, Borders at Cross-gates, and the Rensselaer County Historical Society are among the local places to obtain copies. There will be book signings at the Festa Italiana on September 11th and 12th. The book is also sold on the internet. All royalties are being donated to the Troy Public Library. We are always interested in photos depicting life in Little Italy to add to our scanned collection of images.



Prospect Park 1937

Josie and Tony DeFazio posing for the camera. Josie showing her beauty while Tony shows his strength. Tony is celebrating his 94th birthday on August 23rd. Stop in at DeFazio's (264 Fourth Street) and wish Tony happy birthday and Josie get well wishes. They are special people!!!!

 **Presents:**



THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2009 6:30 P.M.
THE ARTS CENTER OF THE CAPITAL REGION
265 RIVER STREET IN TROY
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 274-3781
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

"Strike Out Breast Cancer!"

Sunday, August 16th, 2009
1pm - 3pm (Private Party)

 Uncle Sam Lanes
5th Avenue, Troy 

Donation- \$20/ticket
Buy a 4-pack, get an extra ticket FREE!
Includes 2 hours of
"Red-Pin" bowling, music & pizza
(equipment included)
50/50 raffle & prizes

*Purchase tickets from Antoinette Ciccarelli at
Rensselaer County ARC—274-3110 ext. 3025
Cash & Checks are accepted*

Walk-ins are welcome

AT LIBERTY

The Saga of an Italo-American Family in South Troy

by

Frank LaPosta Visco

Part 10: The Punishment

Italian tempers flared. Curses and damnation spewed forth in a raging torrent of biblical proportions.

The hot July Saturday that Esther and Eddie returned from their civil wedding ceremony in Vermont, neighbors of both families, from Ferry Street to the Canal, and from Havermans Avenue to the River, closed their windows -- more to shut out the mournful wailing than the burning rays of the sun.

The shame of an unconsecrated union was almost too much to bear for the Campobasso family. While Francesco fumed and railed, the women of the clan met in what can best be described as a council of elders. In Italian families, the decisions in cases like this would come from the woman, who was the heart of *la famiglia*; the enforcement would come from the man, who was merely the family's figurehead.

The ruling came down. Esther was forbidden to leave the Campobasso house -- for any reason -- for nine months. And, obviously, she was to have no outside male visitors.

Anna Caserta was summoned to the Campobasso household to confer. Her indignation at the elopement of her son and this strong-willed young woman didn't rise to the same level of contempt as in Maria Campobasso's family, but her resentment exceeded theirs. Actually, Anna was more upset over the threat of losing her youngest son's contributions to the Caserta/Case coffers -- already two sons had married, and while their brides had joined them in the Liberty Street house, more of their income was diverted away from Anna.

Eddie Case had no recourse but to follow the dictates handed to him by the Campobasso family -- he would have no contact with Esther until the end of April of the following year. If he wrote letters, they would be destroyed.

The Campobasso phone was in the store, so a call would be futile. No matter how anxious he was to see Esther, Eddie would simply have to go on with his life without her until the matter was resolved.

He would go to work, perform in plays with his brothers to benefit St. Anthony's Church and School, but he wouldn't date and he wouldn't "go out with the boys" on weekends. But, if Esther's keepers thought that Eddie's passion would die, they were wrong.

As for Esther, Eddie was the only man in her life. Now that she had known him intimately, she knew that he would wait, and be faithful. She, on the other hand, had no choice. Esther was now the princess locked in the tower, and the drama of that reinforced her determination. She understood the reason for the imprisonment -- the stain of carnal knowledge must be erased in the only way it could be -- by time. If at the end of nine months she were still childless, then it could be argued that the family honor had not been besmirched.

Such was the strict code of the old way. For centuries, the key to the survival of the *contadini* of Italy was neither the state nor the church. The rulers of the fractured Italian provinces were feudal lords; even when the country was finally united in the late 1800's, the rulers were from the north and actually increased the repression of the southerners. Although individual priests might side with the peasants, church leaders made their deal with whomever was in power.

So *la famiglia* was all you could count on. And if the family was dishonored in anyway, extraordinary means were necessary to restore it. Esther had committed one of the worst transgressions of the old way -- she had completely ignored a basic tradition, in which the family arranges the union of its children.

As so often happens in large families, there was other news that year, and not all of it was bad. Just weeks after the shame that Esther and Eddie had brought on their families, the Campobassos and Cases had a reason to smile: it was announced that Esther's older sister Rose and her husband, Eddie's older brother Joe, were finally going to have their second child.

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Next: In Part Eleven, a wedding, a birth, and a break with tradition.

August Meeting Date 8/19
Neighborhood Watch 6pm
Little Italy 7pm
TNAC 9/23 location undecided



Ceremony at Troy City Council Meeting

Recently Four members of the Troy West Side Waterfront Weed and Seed Steering Committee attended the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) a division of the Department of Justice office of Justice programs, Weed and Seed 2009 National Conference in Tampa Florida. Those attending were Colleen Goldston Site Coordinator, Anthony DeFiglio Steering Committee Secretary, Agnes Zink from the Roarke Center and William Roehr from the City of Troy. The theme of this years conference was "empowering people, empowering neighborhoods" They were learning sessions from crime prevention, youth leadership to reentry into society from incarceration. They were speakers and presenters from all of the country. At the breakout sessions on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Colleen Goldston and

Anthony DeFiglio presented a power point program based on their training and experience with the successful Canal Avenue Tot Lot project. The highlight of the conference for our group was at the awards luncheon when Troy's West side waterfront Weed and Seed Committee received two national awards.

The first was the Coordination Honor Award for their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Tax Program.

The second award was the Tenure Award for Site Directors, this was presented to Colleen Goldston by forming strategic partnerships.

For more information on weed and seed and to see pictures from the conference you can go to the conference web site at www.ccdconferencejournal.org.



**Italian Community Center Charitable
Foundation of Troy
1450 5th Avenue
Troy, New York 12180
(518 274-0508, ext 5**



**21st ANNUAL SHRINE FESTA
ITALIANA**

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday
September 11th—13th, 2009**

Friday 5:00pm - 11:00 pm

Saturday 5:00pm - 11:00pm

**Sunday - Mass - 10:00am to be held inside the main hall
Food booths to open 12 noon until 6:00pm.**

**Great Italian Food - Kids Fun - Games of Chance
Live Music for your entertainment**

Also

“Little Italy” books for Sale

“Empty Bowls” Information Booth

Flavour Café - Flavored Coffee & Italian Pastries

Italian Souvenirs & Cookbooks - ICC

Entertainment

Friday 9/11 - T S Ensemble 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Saturday 9/12 - Good Times Band - 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Sunday 9/13 - Al Bruno, Entertainer - 2:00pm - 6:00pm

W/Live Broadcast Magic 100.9

Bocce Tournament - Saturday 9/12

Home Wine Tasting and Wine Making Lessons - Sunday 9/13