

LITTLE ITALY NEWS DECEMBER 2009 EDITION

www.littleitalytroy.org

troylittleitaly@gmail.com

Troy Little Italy
presents
Christmas in Little Italy

**Liberty Square
(Fourth & Liberty, Troy, NY)**

Saturday, December 5, 2009 5:30 pm



Uncover the Ceppo

Hear the Story of Old Befana

Help Create a Christmas Tradition

Enjoy Holiday Treats and Beverages

Decorate the Children's Christmas Tree

Share an Evening with Friends and Neighbors

View the Enchanting and Timeless Classic Pinocchio

Join in the Singing of Christmas Carols (Italian and English)

**Hear Beautiful Italian Music Performed on the Zampogna, Mandolin,
and Accordion**

**Sponsored by
the neighbors
and businesses
of Little Italy**

Schedule of Events

5:30 pm at Liberty Square (Fourth & Liberty Streets)

*Unveiling of the Ceppo
Decorating the Children's Tree (youngsters only)
Lighting the Community Tree
Singing Christmas Carols (Italian and English)
Musical entertainment by John Chupka (accordion)
Dominic Adamo (mandolin), Tristan Wilson (zampogna)
Roasted chestnuts (compliments of Michael LoPorto) prepared
by Jerry Favata*

6:15 pm at Lisa's Gelateria (Corner of Hill & Liberty)

*Storytelling by Claire Davis of the timeless Italian folk tale of
La Befana based on Tomie DePaola's book, The Legend of Old Befana
(available for sale). Holiday cookies and beverages compliments of
Lisa & Terry Jordan.*

7:00 pm at Friehofer's Run for Women Meeting Center (corner Fourth & Washington Streets)

*Professor/Cavalier Philip DiNovo, President and founder of the American
Italian Heritage Association, will present a program on Italian Christmas
Traditions. Holiday cookies and punch compliments of Troy Little Italy.*

7:30 pm at Flavour Café & Lounge (across from Friehofer's)

*Charlie Staats & Joe Mancino, proprietors, will show the popular
Disney film Pinocchio.*

Our neighborhood restaurants, including Carmen's Café (Corner of
First & Adams), **DeFazio's Pizzeria** (266 Fourth Street), **Flavour Café**
(228 Fourth Street), **the Irish Mist** (Corner of Second & Ida), **Lisa's
Gelateria** (Corner of Hill & Liberty), **Oliver's Vegan Deli** (corner of Hill &
Washington) and **the Red Front Restaurant** (71 Division Street),
always welcome your patronage.

TROY'S VICTORIAN STROLL, TOMORROW, 11 AM – 5 PM

*Volunteers from Troy Little Italy, the Italian Community Center and the
CYO Center look forward to seeing you tomorrow at their shared information
Station in the Troy Atrium at Third & Broadway. Volunteers from St Anthony and
Troy Little Italy bingo will hold a silent auction during the Stroll outside the
Bingo hall on the second level. Cider and treats compliments of the bingo volunteers.*



VICTORIAN STROLL, DECEMBER 6, 2009,

11 am to 5 pm

Visit our information table located in the Troy Atrium. Try Italian Gelato. Sign up for the Neighborhood Watch or put your name on our Newsletter list. View our neighborhood video created by Dan Lennon and Mike Esposito. We will be joined by our neighbors the Italian Community Center and the Troy Youth Association (CYO).

For delicious Italian Food stop by the Italian Community Center booth located outside in the food court for Italian Wedding Soup and their famous Sausage & Peppers.

SILENT AUCTION to be held on the second level outside the Bingo Hall !!!!

11 am to 4 pm

Auction “to benefit the Adopt a Family Fund” starts at 11 am, winners will be selected at 4 pm. You do not have to be present to win. Stroll by, have refreshments, buy tickets and come back for the auction. Sponsored by the bingo volunteers of St. Anthony’s and Troy Little Italy and supported by various Troy businesses.

Troy Little Italy will hold Bingo at 2 pm - Doors will open at 10 am

The Irish Mist

285 Second Street

OPEN: 11 am to 8 pm

Food and Toy drive to benefit children of Rensselaer County.

Music and Free Soup all day.

Dave Disisto, Noon to 4:30 pm

Frank Jaklitsch, 5 pm to 8 pm

Flavour Café

228 Fourth Street

OPEN: 9 am to 9 pm

Entertainment and Specials

Sagettes

Rusty Pipes

Drink Specials

Special Offers !!!

Carmen’s Café

!st and Adams Street

OPEN: 4 pm to 6 pm

OPENING RECEPTION

Heroes of Troy portraits by Jasmine C. Ceniceros will be on display. Mulled wine & snacks will be served.

 <p>December 12, 2009 Saturday 9 am to 1 pm Troy Atrium Bingo Hall 49 Fourth Street Troy, New York</p> <p>Park in the garage or use the 4th Street Entrance (elevators available) \$5.00 includes a Picture with Santa and a Treat!! Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage or Bacon, Coffee, Juice!! Proceeds to benefit the “Adopt a Family “ Program Sponsored by the bingo volunteers of St. Anthony’s Church and Troy Little Italy.</p>	 <p>December 12, 2009 Saturday 3 to 5 pm</p> <p>“Free” Christmas Party</p> <p>Hosted by the Italian Community Center Charitable Organization 1450 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York</p> <p>Refreshments</p> <p>Santa</p> <p>Ventriloquist</p>
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PLEASE NOTE DECEMBER MEETING LOCATION

South Central Troy Neighborhood Watch
November Meeting Minutes

Our regularly scheduled Neighborhood Watch Meeting was held on November 18th at the Freihofer's Race Headquarters. There were 25 arrests in the South Troy area during the month of October. A detailed map was given to all who attended the meeting and a discussion of certain arrests followed. There were 24 people in attendance and many new faces for our group.

The recent robberies we discussed recent robberies and while there appears to be a drop in incidents, the community was reminded not to let their guard down and follow the safety guidelines that were shared last month at the meeting, in the printed newsletter and in the email of the October minutes. Since our last meeting, there have been reports in our neighborhood of unwanted persons attempting to access properties through the rear areas of property. When approached and questioned, they said they were looking for cans. Please do not hesitate to call the police if you have such an encounter. This is an old line that has been used many times in our area. Call the police if this happens.

Our next meeting will be held on December 16th at 6:00 at the Italian Community Center. PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION CHANGE for this month only! Please plan on attending and bring a neighbor. If you know someone who should be on our mailing list, please have them send an email to sctroywatch@gmail.com. If you need Officer McDonald, his email is chris.mcdonald@troyny.gov.

REMEMBER....WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO CALL IN CONCERNS!!

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season

December Meeting and Christmas Party

Neighborhood Watch 6 pm Little Italy 6:30 pm



7 pm Refreshments will be served, bring your appetite, socialize

The meeting will be held on the 2nd floor, enter the door on the right and take the elevator to the second floor meeting rooms.

Worship and Advocacy In Little Italy

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Third & Washington Sts. Troy, NY 12180
Weekend Masses: Sat. 4 pm. Sun. 10 am
Weekday Masses: Tues., Thurs., Fri 9 am
Soup Kitchen: Wed & Thurs, 4-5, ongoing
Volunteers needed.

St. John's Episcopal Church

Corner of 1st and Liberty Street
Sunday services at 8 & 10 am
The Basement Thrift Shop: Wed. & Sat.
9 am– Noon, on-going.

St. Anthony of Padua Shrine Church

28 State Street Troy NY 12180
Weekend Masses: Sat., 4:30 pm. Sun. 9
am, 10 am (Spanish), 12 & 5:30 pm
Weekday Masses: Mon. thru Thurs.
7:15am & 12 pm

Beth Tephthilah Synagogue

82 River Street
Saturday 10 am Service
Congregation Berith Shalom
167 Third Street
Friday Service 7:30 pm

United Ordained Church of Christ

Sunday: 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship. Now held at the Italian
Community Center, 1450 5th Avenue.
Wednesday: 6:30 pm Bible Class

Redemption Church

Liberty & First Street, meets in St. John's
Episcopal Gym. Sunday School 10:30 am
Worship 12:30 pm
Wednesday and Friday worship 7 pm.

*Merry Christmas
Buona Natale
From
Troy Little Italy*

*Have a safe and
Happy New Year*

South Central/Little Italy News

The Record, November 29, 2009, p15. Sharing heritage, traditions at Christmas-time, by Mike Esposito. Troy Treasures column regarding the Troy Little Italy event held in the Liberty Square neighborhood.

November 26, 2009, p8. Filmmaker seeks extras to make it a "Holy Night", by Tom Caprood. Little Italy resident and filmmaker Roman Jacques is looking for 200 extras to appear in a Christmas-themed short film he is producing. They will sing a rendition of "O Holy Night" at Monument Square. The date is December 12 between 5-8 pm. Contact Roman at www.romanjacques.com/AwayInAManager.html

The Evangelist, November 19, 2009. New museum celebrates Italian-Americans, by Ann Hauprich. Long time Fourth Street resident Sister Mary Jane Manzerra is photographed with her niece, Mary DuBois, speaking with Dr. Philip DiNovo, President of the American Italian Heritage Association and founder of the groups museum and cultural center which opened in mid-October at 1227 Central Avenue, Albany, NY.

Metroland: The Capital Region's Alternative Newsweekly, November 19, 2009, p10-11. Who's the Man? By Chet Hardin. Bill Dunne (D), 4th District Troy City Council member, is profiled at a time when the city's budget battle heats up. Dunne, and 5th District Council member Ken Zalewski (D), represent the South Central neighborhood.

School Arts: The Art Education Magazine for K-12, December 2009. A Neighborhood Story by Michael Gerrish. Michael, a Think First resident is an Art Educator at Questar III, who describes "creating community through the Little Italy mural project" which he supervised.

The Record
November 21, 2009, p8. Celebrating their resourceful spirits, photos by J. S. Carras. Historic Second Streets' Phyllis Conroy is one of four, along with Elizabeth Young, Dana Ramos, and Owen Neitzel, honored at the YWCA Resourceful Women Dinner for services to the organization.

November 12, 2009, p22. Neighborhood flavors: DeFazio's offers more than just pizza by Bob Goepfert, photos by Mike McMahon. Great review of an all-time favorite neighborhood eatery. "DeFazio's is really about good food at really good prices".

November 11, 2009, p8. It's a celebration of craft traditions, photos by J. S. Carras. Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway honors Pottery District resident Carl Erickson for his years of preservation of historic architecture.



Carmen's Back

Located at the corner of 1st and Adam.
Dinner, Fri. 5-9 pm Sat. & Sun. 9-4 pm



The Salvi Family Circa 1937

Front Row: Dominick, Stella, Jane, Nicholas. Second Row: Joseph, Mary, Victoria, and Samuel.

Photo submitted by Jane Salvi Nowakowski

Apartments for Rent in Little Italy

Modern, clean apartment near RPI & Sage, Laundry, lease required, quite neighborhood, References, No pets, non - smoker. Call 542-1055

245 2nd Street

(Vicinity Washington Park) Victorian brick rowhouse, convenient to Sage, library, downtown amenities. Smoke free house. No dogs

2nd Floor - 1 br, Obl Parlors, nice kitchen, great light, work/storage space. \$650 (inc. heat) + Security.

3rd Floor - 1 br, lr, k, lg bath, great light, good closet space. \$625 (inc heat) + Security. Call 518/273-1692

Liberty Square neighborhood in Little Italy, large 3 bedroom. 1st floor, appliances, w/d hookup, off street parking, No dogs. Call 518-272-6660 or 518-274-4344

AT LIBERTY

The Saga of an Italo-American Family in South Troy

by

Frank LaPosta Visco

Book Two, Chapter 2: *December Birth*

Eddie and Esther Case thought I'd never show up. I, "Little Eddie" Case, was due to make my first appearance in the middle of December, but I guess I was too fat and happy to leave the womb. I reluctantly debuted at St. Mary's Hospital at 7:10 a.m. on December 31, 1939, tipping the scales at 9 pounds, 13 ounces. And I wasn't all that long.

The earliest photographs show me to be a jolly, light-haired mass of blubber, with creases hiding my joints. My legs look like ham hocks. And if they thought I would grow up to play the violin like my father, they would have had a difficult time deciding under which chin I should hold it.

Seriously, folks. I looked like a fat little Renaissance cherub, except that those little wings that the Italian painters used would never have lifted me one inch off the ground. Thank goodness I stretched out since then and didn't keep gaining weight at the same rate of my first year, or they'd be burying me in a grand piano case when the time comes.

Of course, I don't remember my first year, but we all know that I was born into a nuclear family that had split and then reformed just before my arrival. Whether that had anything to do with the way I was raised, I can only guess. But I suspect that my father's dalliance while my mother was carrying me had something to do with my formative years.

For one thing, although both my mother and father understood the Italian language, they didn't teach it to me. I distinctly remember them using it around me, though – not to broaden my understanding of what they were saying, but quite the opposite – they used Italian as a kind of secret code, allowing them to discuss "grown up" topics right in front of me.

To be fair, it probably wasn't solely because of their secrets that they only taught me American English. After all, I was a third generation Italo-American, and with a name like Case and a light complexion, the Italo part, with prejudice still prevalent, was not a positive thing in the early forties. Especially with Mussolini joining forces with Hitler's Third Reich, which

was gobbling up Europe.

The only Italian I was taught in my early years was by my father's brother, Mike (Michelangelo), and that was just how to count from *uno* to *diece*. The Italian I learned by listening was not used in polite society.

I shouldn't complain, though, because this use of a foreign language to keep me in the dark led me to a kind of philosophy, a way of looking at the world that has stayed with me into old age. I can remember getting the distinct impression back then that there were, for want of a better term, "secrets of life." And all this language that the grown-ups were using, although unintelligible to me, was obviously comprehensible to them, because when they used it, they laughed or got serious, looked thoughtful or doubtful – all the signs that they were communicating important and vital information.

It led me to believe that, indeed, they knew things that I didn't, and they weren't telling me. So, I inferred that these "secrets of life" had to be discovered. My approach to that "discovery" was to decide that I needed to pay attention to all the information around me, sift through it, and I would magically glean the most important and valuable nuggets. So, I became an observer, watched and listened to people, learned to read at an early age, accompanied my mother to the magical Troy Library with its world of knowledge and beauty, listened intently to the nightly story my mother would read to me, and even paid rapt attention to my father's weekly reading of the Sunday Funnies.

It's paid off for me, because I learned to store a lot of information, and to be able to retrieve it – and that led me to a career where that's a very important asset – advertising and promotion. But we'll save my adventures in that field until we get to the sixties.

So, as I look back at what my family, and all the residents of Troy's Little Italy were going through on the eve of 1940, I can't help but wonder about all the mixed emotions about the direction their lives were taking, about the anti-Italian sentiment building all around their forty-block enclave, and about how drastically all our lives would change in the unforeseen events that would transpire in just under a year. More on that next time.

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Next: In Book 2, Chapter 3: *Infamy*.

Little Italy Real Estate For Sale

1 FAMILY

191 Second St. 892-1326	\$499,900	Karen
261 Liberty St. 466-1303	\$54,900	Harvey
164 Second St. 813-6049	\$269,000	Michael
504 Washington St. 348-2060	\$105,000	Willie
1033 Sixth Ave. 788-6381	\$67,500	Yvonne
1023 Fifth Ave. 269-8278	\$124,900	Cindy
56 Havermans Ave. 688-1504	\$145,900	Deb

2 FAMILY

190 Third St. 588-6755	\$99,000	James
121 Adams St. 618-8249	\$109,000	Thomas
310 Second St. 788-6381	\$99,900	Yvonne
42 Ida St. 885-9121	\$64,500	Patricia
198 Hill St. 857-5427	\$118,500	James
101 Hill St. 266-1406	\$59,900	Marion

MULTI UNITS

1 Irving Place 852-1365	\$215,500	Richard
191-193 Second St. 892-1326	\$849,000	Karen
199 Fourth St. 961-3313	\$119,900	Jay
341 4th St. 727-3949	\$174,900	Allen
283 4th St. 724-5959	\$99,000	Tom

COMMERCIAL

275 Fourth St. 859-9255	\$129,900	Suzanne
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Advertise your Real Estate Here
To place an ad for an apartment e-mail troylittleitaly@gmail.com Please remember to notify us when your space is rented.

**Apartment Listings are
Located on Page 5**

Capital District Community Loan Fund

A Free Workshop
for
Micro enterprises and Non-Profits

Universal learning through the spirit of technology:

Effective Ways to Improve Your Small Business Or Non-Profit Organization with Technology



with
Antoine Harrison
of
Creative Technologies of Albany
Improve your business with free
or inexpensive software and technology tools.

December 10th • 2-4 pm
255 Orange Street, Albany
2nd Floor Conference Room

Capital District *Community* Loan Fund, Inc.

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