

## LITTLE ITALY NEWS • FEBRUARY 2008

troylittleitaly@gmail.com

### **BUON COMPLEANNO GIOVANNI!**

Submitted by Mike Esposito

Longtime Little Italy resident John Rusomanno celebrated his 100th birthday (January 22) surrounded by family and friends at a reception at the Italian Community Center on January 27, 2008.

John and his wife Maria Annunziata and their five children Nicola, Maria (Sestito), Elizabeth (Cutelle), Bruno, and Antoinette (Lo Porto) emigrated to the United States from Cardinale (Province of Catanzaro), Calabria, Italy on September 5, 1956 and purchased a home at 10 St. Mary's Ave. in Troy's Little Italy neighborhood. Their life was centered about their family, a family known for its unbounded generosity. Friends and neighbors quickly became extended family. There was always an extra place at the table in their home. As their children married, the family circle grew to include fifteen grandchildren and twenty-one great grandchildren who brought them much joy. Along with other family members, and friends and neighbors, they were required to sell their home in the early 1970's to the state for a planned arterial which was later cancelled. They eventually purchased a home on Third Street. While the death of Annunziata and sons Bruno and Nicola brought much sorrow to John and to the family, the family unit has remained close and supportive of each other. John retired from the maintenance department at RPI after eighteen years but continued until he was in his early nineties to lovingly care for his large vegetable garden, always sharing his bounty with family and friends. Whether the garden was on St. Mary's Avenue or Third Street everyone marveled at John's gift of working the soil, planting, growing and tending to the vegetables often times rising in the early morning hours to begin this labor of love. As with a garden, a family needs a dedicated hand to tend to it and it will flourish and be bountiful. This has been John's life work and now he gathers the fruits of his labor of love. **BUON COMPLEANNO GIOVANNI!**

### **SOUTH CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING SUMMARY**

Our last meeting was held on January 16th. There were 17 arrests made in the South Central Troy area out of the 234 arrests made citywide during the period of December 15th through January 11th. The total calls for service, citywide: 2,796, South Central Troy area: 267 (9.5%). At each meeting, a map is given to attendees that indicate what each call/arrest was for, and where it was.

There were several concerns that were brought up by residents at the meeting. They are listed below with resources available for more information.

**CALL 911 or TROY POLICE?** - There have been concerns of response time when calling 911. 911 should be used for all emergencies. If you have a non-emergency and you would like a Troy Police officer to respond, please feel free to call them directly at 270-4411.

**PARKING SPOT SAVERS** - Under the municipal code, people cannot put cones, chairs, handmade signs etc. out to reserve their parking spaces on city streets. Please feel free to share this information with your neighbors.

**SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY** - We are again putting these resources in the newsletter. If you would like information on sex offenders that are living in our community, please refer to the following sites,

1. **www.familywatchdog.us** is excellent and often times more up to date than the next two.
2. Rensselaer County Online at [www.renco.com](http://www.renco.com) provides sex offender information.
3. NYS Criminal Justice Services at **www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us** Sex Offender Registry sub- directory, left-side column.

### **GARBAGE PICK UP, BE RESPONSIBLE**

All garbage **MUST** be placed in garbage cans that have lids. Garbage should be placed out no sooner than 12 hours prior to pickup. If your property has alley access, **ALL** Garbage and Recyclables **MUST** be placed in the alley, not the front of your building. (The above is taken from § 247-9 "Duties of owners and oc-

cupants from the Code of the City of Troy". Failure to follow city code can result in the issuance of violation notices and fines) For details regarding garbage pick up, please see the city web site at [www.troyny.gov](http://www.troyny.gov) or call (518) 270-4579 or 270-1115.

**GENERAL INFORMATION-** If you are concerned about a code violation, suspected illegal activity or tenant issue, please feel free to email Officer Chris McDonald at [chris.mcdonald@troyny.gov](mailto:chris.mcdonald@troyny.gov) or call him at (518) 270-4789. If you would like to receive regular updates through email and get crime alerts, please send an email to [scstroywatch@gmail.com](mailto:scstroywatch@gmail.com). The next Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 20th at 6:00pm at the Freihofer's Race Headquarters at the corner of 4th and Washington (233 Fourth St.). We hope to see you there. **BE SAFE!!**

**HELP OUT A NEIGHBOR** - While the SC-TroyWatch emails reach over 300 individuals including residents in the Little Italy, Historic Sage, Washington Park, Think First and the Pottery District neighborhoods, we are still missing residents who do not have access to a computer. We are getting together a phone tree which can be used for alert purposes. If you have a neighbor that would like to be part of the tree, please call Heather Hamlin at (518) 441-5700 or email their phone number and name to [scstroywatch@gmail.com](mailto:scstroywatch@gmail.com) and they will be added to the list. Please assure residents that the only calls that will come will be from our Neighborhood Watch and numbers will not be shared outside of our group. Thank you to all of the residents that have volunteered to be a part of the team to make calls.

### **DOG OWNERS, BE CONSIDERATE**

Dog owners are responsible for removing and cleaning any waste or excrement deposited on public or private property. When walking your dog **YOU ARE REQUIRED** to carry an implement capable of picking up **YOUR DOG'S WASTE** to discard it! Let's keep our neighborhood sidewalks, streets and alleys clean (and sanitary)!

## LITTLE ITALY IN THE NEWS

Submitted by Mike Esposito

**The Record**, The Record Historian, January 15, 2008. 1944 Staff Sgt. Nicholas Grinaldo, recipient of The Purple Heart, Bronze Star and NYS Conspicuous Service Award. Photo submitted by Nick Cristiano.

**The Record**, Daily Historian.

January 6, 2008, p.16. 1952 Frances (Pasinella) Bliss, Angela (Pasinella) Hulihan and Grace (Covel) Nazarian at Radio City Kusic Hall, NYC. Photo submitted by Jim Hulihan.

January 12, 2008, p.16. 1923 Margaret DeLorenzo and Josephine (DeLorenzo) Razzano at First Communion and Confirmation at St. Anthony's Church. Photo submitted by Joann Mackey.

January 15, 2008, p., 16. 1961 90th Anniversary of the Rosary Society of St. Lawrence Church, Troy. Member photos including Rev. John Klebkuas, Rev. Morris Dwyer, Rev. William Schwarts and Rev. Thomas Phelan. Photo submitted by Jack Reilly.

January 22, 2008, p.16. 1935 Theresa Iacketta Musco. Photo submitted by Nancy Iacketta.

**The Record**, January 27, 2008, p.11. Keeping Troy a walkable city by Joely Johnson Mork. Little Italy resident writes in a Troy Treasures column about Troy's walkability as a big factor in contributing to the increase in entrepreneurs and families who want to work, live and play here. The interesting web site referenced in Joely's article is [www.walkscore.com](http://www.walkscore.com)

## DEVELOPMENT OF MAIN STREET GRANT APPLICATION ON-GOING

Troy Little Italy continues to develop plans to submit an application to the New York State Main Street Grant Program for 2008. A group of twenty Little Italy property owners and businesses met on Wed., Jan. 23, with a representative from the program, Mr. John Serio. Mr. Serio presented the objectives and requirements for participation in this matching grant program and suggested useful guidelines for the design of the Little Italy grant proposal. The application will be submitted in the early part of March. Email [troylittleitaly@gmail.com](mailto:troylittleitaly@gmail.com) if you'd like more information about this program.

## VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE

Submitted by Emily Menn

**Where do I vote?** Call your county board of election to find your polling place.

Rensselaer County: 518-270-2990

Albany County: 518-487-5060

Schenectady County: 518-377-2469

Saratoga County: 518-885-2249

### How do I register?

The deadline for registering for the primary election has passed. However get set for the carnage in this fall's general election by registering before October 24, 2008

You need to complete the a voter registration form and bring a current NYS Drivers driver's license or the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you do not have either of these you may provide a copy of a valid photo ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or some other government documentation that shows your name and address. If you do not provide identification when you register, you will be asked for it the first time you vote.

Register in person at either your county board of elections, the DMV or via the Agency-Based Voter Registration Program.

### Qualifications to register to vote in NYS:

- be a United States citizen
- be 18 years old by December 31 of the year in which you file this form (note: you must be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote)
- live at your present address at least 30 days before an election
- not be in jail or on parole for a felony conviction
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere.

### Learn about the candidates:

Metroland has a overview of candidates. The League of Women Voters runs the site: <http://www.smartvoter.org/> New York Times candidate information. (Disclaimer: These sites may have their own biases. Make up your own mind.)

### Want more info?

Voting FAQs from NYS Board of Elections

Don't complain about politics if you don't vote. Of course you can always run for office.

## TROY NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION COUNCIL

The next T-NAC (Troy Neighborhoods Action Council) meeting has been scheduled for Wed., Feb. 20 at 5:30 PM; location to be determined. Call Troy Rehabilita-

tion & Improvement Program, 518 272-8289, x14, or email Hilary Lamishaw at [hilary@trionline.org](mailto:hilary@trionline.org) for information. All are welcome to attend, especially those interested in organizing neighborhoods to deal with crime and other quality of life issues in Troy.

## TROY NEIGHBORHOOD MARKETS

Troy Neighborhood Markets (TNM) will debut in Troy Little Italy this summer. TNM will be a small outdoor market where individuals, groups and businesses from Rensselaer County, the Capital Region and surrounding areas can sell produce, baked goods, prepared foods, art and services. It will convene midweek from Memorial Day to Labor Day, in or close to the MarketPlace on Hill St. between Washington and Liberty Sts. Vendors will be approved in advance and charged a small annual registration fee. Admission will be free to the public. Troy Little Italy has generously agreed to act as sponsor for this year's TNM.

It's TNM's goal over the next few summer seasons to establish neighborhood markets in various locations throughout Troy, NY. Troy's Little Italy is the pilot market for 2008.

Would you like to sell produce from your garden this summer? How about baked goods or art? Would you like to suggest what sort of goods the market should sell, when it should convene or how to make it succeed? Call Donna Mullen at 518-793-2032 or Jean Krueger at 518 272-4972 or Email [troyneighborhoodmkt@gmail.com](mailto:troyneighborhoodmkt@gmail.com) with you ideas and comments.

## FAT SATURDAY FOR THE ARTS

An evening to benefit **The Arts Center of the Capital Region** will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008, at Revolution Hall, 425 River Street, Troy, NY. A full night of entertainment will be presented by Master of Ceremonies Greg Wynczyk and will include live music with Captain Squeeze & the Zydeco Moshers, belly dancers, jugglers, the crowning of the King and Queen of Fat Saturday and a costume parade. A silent auction with one of a kind art works donated by area artists will be held. Doors open at 7pm, tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and are available at Brown's Brewing Company (518 273. BEER), the Revolution Hall Box Office (518 274-0553) or online at [RevolutionHall.com](http://RevolutionHall.com). The Arts Center of the Capital Region is located at 265 River Street, Troy, NY, 273-0552, [www.artscenteronline.org](http://www.artscenteronline.org).

## **TROY NIGHT OUT TURNS 1**

Come celebrate our 1st birthday with us on Fri., Feb. 29th from 6-9pm in the Frear Building! It will be an elegant evening of art, music, dessert and champagne as we celebrate the past year's accomplishments and look forward to an exciting year ahead. Admission (includes food & drink) is \$10. There will be a silent auction featuring artworks by local artists, as well as generous donations of goods and services by Troy businesses. If you are an artist or business that would like to contribute to the auction, you can download a form at [www.troynightout.org/auction](http://www.troynightout.org/auction). Questions? Email [troynightout@gmail.com](mailto:troynightout@gmail.com) or call Karen 203-1096 or Elizabeth 266-9311.

**Jazz Festival** at the Arts Center of the Capital Region during Troy Night Out. Top flight performances by the Jazz Bands from RPI and Troy High School and Averill Park High School. Fun, fun music!

## **CAPITAL DISTRICT LOCAL FIRST**

Capital District Local First will be having it's bimonthly meeting on Monday, February 4th at Proctor's Theater, 432 State Street, Schenectady. Local First Treasurer and RPI professor David Hess will give a presentation on the multiple benefits to local economies of doing business locally. Several Troy-based businesses are already members, including Market Block Books, Brown's Brewing Company, Digital Artist's Space, the Sanctuary for Independent Media, DeFazio's Pizza, Tosca, Illium, Troy Food Co-op, Holmes & Watson, and General Concision. Come join us for a "Meet & Greet" at 6 pm, and the meeting and presentation will begin at 7 pm. More info: [www.capitaldistrictlocalfirst.org](http://www.capitaldistrictlocalfirst.org)

## **MACBETH AT NYSTI**

Experience Shakespeare's timeless tragedy of sinister prophecy, murderous choices, crazed tyranny and horrific consequences. Staged as a universal tale of personal and political intrigue, Shakespeare's 11th century Scottish Lord and Lady Macbeth are interpreted for any time and any place while keeping the Bard's rich language and compelling drama. Recommended for ages 13 and older. Playing February 1 - 13, 2008. Order New York State Theatre Institute tickets online, [www.nysti.org](http://www.nysti.org).

## **TROY MUSIC HALL 28TH GALA**

Join Troy Music Hall on Saturday, March 1, for its annual fund raiser to support its facilities and programming. You may call 518 273 8945 for event and ticket information.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC INTEREST**

Two Troy-based artist resources, Digital Artist's Space and the Photo Center of the Capital District, will be Reviewers at the Center for Photography at Woodstock's "Regional Reviews" event on Saturday, Feb. 9th in Woodstock, NY. If you are a passionate photographer seeing gallery representation, a photojournalist seeking an inspired editor for an assignment, or an image-maker seeking feedback from other professionals, you can't miss this event. More info: <http://www.cpw.org/SpecialEvents/RegionalReview/pages/reviews.html>

## **FULTON ST. GALLERY**

Now on display, January 15 to February 16, 2008, LITTLE ENGINES, is a group show inspired by the classic children's story The Little Engine That Could. The exhibit is curated by Jason Martinez, featuring artists Abraham Ferraro, Bryan Heart, Blue Lake Hawk, Jennifer Hunold, Erika Klein, Sarah MacWright, Sarah Martinez, Nicholas Reinert, Jamie Thompson, and Jake Winiski. Coming A GATHERING OF PEERS, WORKS IN CLAY, featuring The Saratoga Clay Guild, Regis Brodie and Leslie Ferst, showing February 16 - March 22, 2008 Reception Troy Night Out, Friday, February 29, 5 to 9pm. Located at 408 Fulton Street, Troy, NY 12180, 518 274-8464, fax 518-274-8479, [info@fultonstreetgallery.org](mailto:info@fultonstreetgallery.org), [www.fultonstreetgallery.org](http://www.fultonstreetgallery.org), Colleen Skiff, Director. Open Wed. - Sat., 12 to 4 pm, Wed. & Thurs., 6 to 8 pm.

## **TROY KNITTERS CELEBRATE SECOND YEAR**

Troy Knitters Celebrates Second Year Knit a little, knit a lot, knit not at all? Well, you're all welcome to join Troy Knitters every first and third Tuesdays each month at 6 to 7:30pm at Flavour Cafe and Lounge on Fourth St. between Washington and Liberty Sts. Troy Knitters started meeting in February of 2006, sharing patterns, techniques, and teaching the craft to anyone who wants to learn. New and interesting people of all skill levels attend regularly. The knitters hope you'll join them in their third year. Visit [www.troyknitters.com](http://www.troyknitters.com) for more information or email [troyknitters@yahoo.com](mailto:troyknitters@yahoo.com) if you have questions.

## **TROY WATERFRONT FARMERS MARKET BOOK SWAP**

The Farmers Market announces a book swap to be held regularly on the last Saturday of every month. The book swap will be held from 11am to 1pm. Book readings for kids will be held in between those times. TWFM

Winter Market is held each Saturday at the Atrium in downtown Troy, 10am-2pm through the last weekend in April. [www.troymarket.org](http://www.troymarket.org).

## **THE SANCTUARY FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA**

**Redacted**, screening, 8pm, Fri. 2/1 & Sat 2/2

**Ethnic Heritage Ensemble performance**, 8pm, Sat 2/9 \$10

**King Corn** screening w/ panel discussion, 7pm. Fri. 2/15

**Citizen Journalism Workshop**, 1 PM Sun 2/17, Instructor: Elizabeth Press

**A Love During the War**, screening w/ filmmaker Osvalde Lewat - 7pm, Fri 2/22.

**Adam Rudolph's Moving Pictures**, performance, 7pm, Thu. 2/27, \$10.

Call (518) 272-2390, email [info@TheSanctuaryForIndependentMedia.org](mailto:info@TheSanctuaryForIndependentMedia.org), or visit [www.TheSanctuaryForIndependentMedia.org](http://www.TheSanctuaryForIndependentMedia.org) for directions and more information, located at 3361 6th Avenue in north Troy.

## **TROY HS POPS CONCERT**

Come hear Troy young people make wonderful music- free and open to the public. Feb. 13, 7:30pm at Doyle Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

## **THE GREEN TECHNOLOGY HOUSE EVENT OF JAN. 12TH**

Submitted by John Pattison

About a dozen curious people showed up at this event. There were also Realtors who brought clients, since the house is a bank repo on the MLS. The event invited visitors to suggest how to remake the building into a more attractive member of the cityscape. Lots of ideas were tossed around for consideration. Councilman Ken Zalewski was among the visitors and also solar power 'Ecopreneur' Dennis Phayre.

## **FEBRUARY CONTRIBUTORS**

The Little Italy News is a collaborative effort of many people, including you, our reader. We thank you for paying attention and participating. February 2008 issue is edited by Jean Krueger. Mike Esposito, Marion Field, Heather Hamlin, Emily Menn and John Pattison submitted articles as well as all the community groups noted herein that sent us their announcements. Community Police Officer Chris McDonald is a valuable asset to our efforts. Debbie Strobe delivers the News. Contact [troylittleitaly@gmail.com](mailto:troylittleitaly@gmail.com) with comments and suggestions for future issues.

### LITTLE ITALY FUNDRAISER

**Sunday brunch at the Irish Mist**, February 10, 11:00am-2:00pm. Brunch buffet includes everything from breakfast to dinner, reservations recommended, 10% of sales to be donated to Little Italy Fund. Come out to support your neighborhood.

### IRISH MIST CALENDER OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

**First and third Fridays**, 8pm to midnight, karaoke with u~sing u~dance. Come out and hear the great voices of some local talent and show off your talents, too.

**Every Wednesday in February**, 6-8pm, karaoke challenge with Jamie Roberts & Oldies 98WTRY, weekly prizes

**Friday 2/8**, the Great Guinness Toast, music by The Houligans, 7:30-11:30pm. Be a part of the Guinness Book Of Records.

**Friday 2/22 & 2/29**, oldies music with DJ Dave Disito.

**Music Sundays, 2/3 & 2/17**, with Frank Jacklitsch, 5-8pm.

**Valentines Week** - Treat that special someone to a great dinner at the Irish Mist. Dinner specials include lobster tail, surf & turf and more. Free roses for each couple with dinner this week.

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

**1 Family**  
244 Hill St. \$139,000 Luanne 286-1000



### WELCOME NEW BUSINESS OWNERS TO FOURH STREET

The new owners of the bar at the corner of Fourth and Adams are James & Nicole Skaggs. The Paradise Pub (formerly Mom's) at 275 4th Street (corner of 4th & Adams) is now open. They are there at noon every day and offer a relaxed, warm and friendly tropical environment. Join them for karaoke several nights a week or stop in to catch your favorite sports games on TV.

29 Jefferson St. \$68,500 Joe 286-2903  
160 Second St. \$199,900 Robin 272-2256

### 2 Family

322 4th St. \$125,000 Mary 640-4029  
50 Ida Street \$29,900 Leon 727-7493  
121 Adam St. \$139,900 Leon 727-7493  
120 Jefferson St. \$29,900 Susan 452-4298

### Multi Units

177 4th St. \$189,900 Barbara 424-5291  
276 3rd St. \$180,000 Theron 279-1166  
78 Hill St. \$149,900 Leon 727-7493  
165 4th St. \$149,900 Eric 339-9137

### Rentals

**213-215 4th St.** - Under Construction  
1st floor-Retail office space-build to suit.  
900 Sq. Ft. \$900 per month.

**2 Bedroom-** New Apartments-Air Conditioning, WIFI, \$700 a month. Anthony 441-1803.

**245 2nd St.**-2nd Fl. apt.in Victorian row house. 1 bdrm, double parlor, office storage space, nice kitchen. Sunny/cheerful, \$625, heat incl. Call Bernice Bornt Ledebouer 1518 273 1692.

**140 3rd St.**-1 bdrm, totally rehabed, built-in microwave, direct access to coin op laundry, \$425/mo+util, 1st, last+ sec. 518 283 8909.

### WORSHIP AND ADVOCACY IN LITTLE ITALY

#### St. Mary's Catholic Church

Third & Washington Sts. Weekend Masses: Sat. 4 P.M. Sun. 10 A.M. 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 A.M. The Basement Thrift Shop: Wed. & Sat., 9 A.M.- Noon, on-going.

St. John's has a number of Tiffany windows in its sanctuary, well worth a visit even if you aren't Episcopalean.

#### St. Anthony of Padua Shrine Church

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

#### St. Ann's Maronite, 184 Fourth Street

Mass: Saturday 4 p.m. (except 1st sat. of month) Sunday 11 p.m.

#### Beth Tephilah Synagogue

82 River Street. Saturday 10 a.m. Service

#### Congregation Berith Sholom

167 Third Street, Friday Service 7:30 p.m.

#### United Ordained Church of Christ

Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Worship, Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Bible Class.

### HELP RESOURCES

Emergencies	911
Traffic Safety	270-5157
Non-Emergencies	270-4411
Downtown Station	270-4421
North Station	237-2398
South Station	273-1682
Community Police	270-4689
Special Operations	270-5854
Animal Control	270-4640
Tip Line, Anonymous	270-5004
Detective Unit	270-4426

### BINGO

**CYO Center**, Tuesday, 7 pm Bingo Green (4th and Fulton St.)

**St. Anthony's Church**, Sunday, 7 pm Bingo Green (4th and Fulton St.) Volunteers needed.



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Available exclusively at  
**Flavour Cafe and Lounge**  
228 Fourth St., Troy, NY 12180  
518 2669253  
[www.flavourcafe.com](http://www.flavourcafe.com)

and  
**Allbues Sewing Service**  
199 4th St. Troy, NY  
518 272 4972

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