

LITTLE ITALY NEWS • NOVEMBER 2007
troylittleitaly@gmail.com

LITTLE ITALY NEWS TURNS TWO

Two years ago this autumn a group of friends and neighbors got together around a table at Flavour Cafe and talked about ways to build the neighborhood and generate enthusiasm for the Little Italy Community. Somebody commented that a newsletter would be a good idea, that Washington Park's monthly missive was a good example of how to draw a neighborhood together. Joely Johnson of Fourth St. came up with the name, the Little Italy News and volunteered to edit the first three editions. The job of editing is now shared by Marion Field and Jean Krueger, with Mike Esposito, Heather Hamlin and Rocco DeFazio contributing content. Mike proofreads for us, Hill's Stationary on Broadway does the copying and Debbie Strobe delivers them door to door. We're proud to say over 1,500 copies are delivered to homes, businesses and via email and our circulation continues to grow with each edition.

The Little Italy News is a group collaboration that takes over 80 working hours a month to assemble and distribute. It was financed up until last August entirely by individual donations. Now printing costs are covered for the next year by a Weed and Seed grant for which we applied as a neighborhood. As readers of this monthly journal, all persons are welcomed to submit stories, announcements, comments, jokes, pictures and good news for publication. Send all material to the troylittleitaly@gmail.com. Advertisements are accepted in exchange for a small donation.

We look forward to the next year of bringing you news from the neighborhood and we want to thank you for your readership.

Troy Little Italy and South Central Neighborhood
Watch regular meetings will be held on Wed, Nov. 14, 6pm at 233 Fourth St. (4th and Washington) due to Thanksgiving.
Everyone is welcome

**HONOR OUR
VETERANS**

**VETERANS DAY
NOV. 11
AND
EVERYDAY**

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Below is the Neighborhood Watch Update for October. Please note this month, we will be meeting on 11/14, the second Wednesday due to the Thanksgiving holiday. We hope to see you at the next meeting!

We've Got Our Eyes on You! Thanks to DPW for assisting in the installation of our new Neighborhood Watch signs. Soon, our entire area will be properly marked. These metal signs were obtained through a grant by the South Central Troy Neighborhood Watch.



Take Notice.

In addition to the street signs, we have free window decals. The decals are great for front and back entrances and are available at the following neighborhood businesses: All-blues, DeFazio's, Flavor Café and the Irish Mist.

Recent Arrest. Last week, one of the reported problem houses in the South Troy area was being worked on as a team effort between SOS, Community Police and the Street Crimes Unit. SOS is led by Det./Sgt. Rick Sprague and (SCU) is led by Sgt. Joe Centanni. When the officers were finished with their efforts, they had two arrests, just over two ounces of crack, and seized \$1,350.00. Thank you to the officers who worked diligently on this problem property. Resident calls to the SOS line and information given to the police are really making a difference. Please do not hesitate to report problems to Officer McDonald.

October Meeting Summary Of the 3088 calls made from mid September to Mid October, 315 (10.2%) were from the South Central Troy area. Of the 290 arrests during that same time period, 16 (5.5%) were from our neighborhood. At each meeting, a map is given to attendees, that indicates what each call/arrest was for, and where it was. Several properties on 2nd, 4th, Hill and Jefferson have been cited for code violations and/or shut down. Additionally, the tent city in the area of First and Ida Streets has been removed.

ALERT. Businesses beware of counterfeit American Express Checks. There was a report of a counterfeit bill being passed at a downtown bank.

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 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 scroywatch@gmail.com.

HELP OUT A NEIGHBOR

While the SCTroyWatch emails reach over 300 individuals, 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 scroywatch@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

VICTORIAN STROLL UPDATE

This year we are fortunate to have our own space in downtown Troy. We thank Judge Development Corp. for letting us use their building at 50 Fourth Street, the old Union National Bank.



This is an exciting opportunity for Troy Little Italy. The CYO, ICC, Weed and Seed and the Neighborhood Watch will be joining us for the event. We will be finalizing plans for decorations, refreshments and entertainment at the November 14th meeting. If you have any ideas or would like to participate, please attend the meeting or contact us. Andrea Daley at 470-7369, Marion Field at 266-1406, Jean Krueger at 272-4972.

DECK THE STOOP WITH BOUGHS OF HOLLY...YOU COULD WIN \$100

Troy Little Italy is having a Holiday Decorating Contest. All you have to do is decorate your house or business and if you are judged by us to be the most beautiful, creative unusual or otherwise interesting you will be awarded \$100, \$75 or \$50. There's no entry process, everyone is included. On Dec. 20 Marion Field, Andrea Daley, George Regan and Jean Krueger, self-appointed judges, will drive the area between Ferry and Ida and from the Hudson to Prospect Park looking for the best. Don't hesitate, decorate! You may be the lucky one. The winners' names will be published in the Troy Little Italy News in January.

GATEWAY GALA GETS GOING

Submitted by Tom Carroll

This year, the Gateway Gala will honor the founders of the RiverSpark Heritage Area, which is currently celebrating its thirtieth anniversary. It will be held at the Bush Memorial Center at First and Congress Streets

Old and New Hill St. & 5thAve., Troy, NY

Submitted by Sam Chiappone

Here are the two pictures which show the same view 100 years apart. The picture is looking north at the intersection of Hill and 5th. Points of interest for the "Old Hill & 5th" include the coal storage building located in the market area. This building stored the coal that was eventual used in the process of manufacturing gas for the gas holder building. The picture was obtained from Ms. Jabbour (Pompey, NY) who purchased the original glass slide from e-bay. Ms. Jabbour is in the process of writing a book about the history of the capital region and will use the picture in her book.

The picture is circa 1900. Notice the horse drawn wagon heading north on 5th Ave. the gas street lamp at Hill & 5th, the streetsweeper on Hill St., and railroad crossing gates.



Old Hill St. and Fifth Ave.



New Hill St. and Fifth Ave.

on the Russell Sage College campus in downtown Troy on Wednesday, 07 November, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$65 (\$40 of which is tax deductible if you attend). Business attire recommended. We'd greatly appreciate an RSVP, if possible, but we will take walk-ins the evening of the event, so don't skip it if you fail to call first but you want to come. You can send in notification either by email at carroll@rpi.edu, or by phone to 274-5267.

The Gala will include a full buffet of food, a cash bar (no charge for nonalcoholic beverages), music by the celebrated "regional balladeer" George Ward, a report on recent Gateway activities (including the news about Woodside Church)*, the presentation to the honorees and our celebrated Silent Auction which includes some great historic goodies as well as donations from generous area merchants.

*Woodside Church has been sold to an out-of-state cultural organization that will be establishing their first arts facility in New York State at that site.

2007 TROY TREASURE AWARD

The Friends of Prospect Park are this year's recipients of the Troy Rehabilitation & Improvement Program (TRIP), 2007 Troy Treasure Award. The Friends are a group of volunteers that have worked to improve

the park for past ten years. TRIP also honored Rensselaer County Exec Kathy Jimino with a Community Citizenship Award. Both awards were presented at a dinner held at the Franklin Terrace Ballroom late last month.

MANY ATTEND 'MEET THE CANDIDATES' FORUM

by Hilary Lamishaw and Mike Esposito
The Troy Neighborhoods Action Council (T-NAC) extends its thanks to all who helped make the recent "Meet the Candidates" public information forum at the CYO Center a great success.

The program was moderated by Jill Nagy, Rensselaer County League of Women Voters, assisted by Sandra Colatosti. The League has been consistent in supporting forums and debates for sponsoring organizations. We are grateful to Ray Piscitelli, Executive Director of the CYO, our host the two hour event, and to his staff and the volunteers who assisted in the set up and clean-up. CYO board member Tony DeFiglio handled arrangements for the excellent sound system provided by American Concert & Entertainment Services Corp (ACES Inc.) of Troy. Thanks to George Regan of USATF for photocopy services and Rocco DeFazio for coordination. Special thanks are extended to the candidates and to those who attended the event.

T-NAC was organized earlier this year when members of several long-time Troy neighborhood associations gathered to continue the discussion of ways to effectively communicate with each other and to share their years of experience in improving the quality of life in their diverse neighborhoods. The group was formed to strengthen already existing neighborhood groups and neighborhood watch programs, empower others in Troy to start similar groups and participate actively as volunteers in the continuing revitalization of our community.

SOUTH CENTRAL/LITTLE ITALY IN THE NEWS

The Record, October 21, 2007, ‘Wanted: Neighborhood Bakery,’ by Mike Esposito, Troy Treasures column. Remembering the former neighborhood bakeries of South Central and Little Italy.

The Record, October 18, 2007, p7. ‘City helps Habitat to maintain buildings integrity’ by Kathryn Caggianelli. Façade of 229 Fourth Street building to be preserved as building is demolished to make way for single family residence.

Times Union, October 18, 2007. ‘Home raises behind old façade’ by Kenneth C. Crowe II. Habitat for Humanity group will build residence and maintain streetscape on Little Italy block once city demolishes dilapidated structure.

The Record, October 9, 2007, p3, 8. ‘Flags fly in honor of Troy’s Italian Americans’ by Kathryn Caggianelli, American and Italian flag raising ceremony at Columbus Monument in Columbus Square with coordination and participation by the Knights of Columbus, the Italian Community Center, Troy’s Little Italy and city leaders.



The demolition of 229 fourth St.

The Record, October 4, 2007, p5, ‘Crumbling Building Is An Eyesore To Residents Of Troy’s Little Italy,’ by Kathryn Caggianelli. Report on long time commercial/residential building on Fourth Street facing possible demolition after years of neglect by several owners.

Times Union, October 3, 2007, ‘Troy Street’s Sense Of History Will Stay In Tact,’ by Kenneth C. Crowe II. City planning to keep fire damaged building façade at 229 Fourth Street while removing the rest of the structure.

The Record, September 28, 2007, p12, Pulse of the People letter by Hannelore Wilfret in support of Little Italy’s cinema under the stars summer film series.

The Record’s Historian, October 23, 2007. 1918 Josie (Cristiano) Cuozzo and Michael Cuozzo, submitted by Nick Cristiano, Sr., p26.

1925 Men’s Club of St. Lawrence Church in Troy, submitted by Jack Reilly, p27.

1937 Mike and Gene Cuozzo, submitted by Nick Cristiano, Sr., p28.

1937 Cuozzo’s Grocery (corner of Third & Division), submitted by Nick Cristiano, Sr., p29.

1945 Josephine Pascarell and Eleanor Maroli, submitted by Frank Visco, p29.

1955 Frank Furciniti, Joan French, Jerry and Bessie Furciniti, submitted by Joan Furciniti, p31. 1955 Furciniti Family, submitted by Joan Furciniti, p29.

1960 Jerry, Adeline and Rocky Crola, submitted by Joan Furciniti, p29.

The Record’s Daily Historian, October 22, 2007. 1950 Rev. Edward Ryan with St. Mary’s basketball players Dom Marro, Dom Bizzarro, Nick Marchese, Jack Huyck and Angelo Bucchiero, submitted by Judy Brearton.

REMEMBER THE WARDS?

By Mike Esposito

Newcomers to Little Italy and residents under fifty are generally not aware of the old political “ward system” which served Troy from 1816 until 1963. Actually the change from Board of Alderman to City Council occurred in 1959 when a new City Charter was written in preparation for the Council-Manager form of government which went into effect in 1964.

For many years the South Central Troy neighborhood (Ferry to the Poestenkill) consisted of three of the city’s eighteen wards. The First Ward running from north to south was from Congress to Liberty; the Eighth Ward was from Liberty to Adams and the Eleventh Ward was from Adams to Ida. The western boundary of all three was the river; the eastern boundary of the First was Fifth Avenue; the Eighth and the Eleventh went a block or two further east to Havermans Avenue and Hill Street. Eventually (in 1982) a local law provided for new political boundaries creating six “council districts” each having between 13-18% of the population of the city. The law also provided for three at-large candidates (elected city wide).

Local politics may have seemed a bit more interesting with the ward system. Ward boundaries were more in line and defined with neighborhoods, less so now considering how much larger the council districts are since re-districting. The whole of South Central is now “swallowed up” into the Fifth Council District. South Troy, geographically, is a small part of the Sixth Council District. Both districts run from the Hudson to the city’s eastern boundary through Albia. The people’s representative to city government under the ward system was the “alderman”; to the county government, the title was “supervisor”. Most often the person elected was a neighbor or at least someone with whom you or a family member had a nodding acquaintance.

Long time residents remember the politically connected Foley’s of the Eighth Ward. The Casey Brothers, John J. and Fred C. represented the Eleventh Ward (each serving over twenty six years) from 1890 to 1944. Among the names from the not to distant past who ably represented our section of the city as aldermen or supervisors were Benjamin Chuckrow, Joseph Graham and Lou Rizzo from the First Ward, Carmen Casale, Anthony “Sonny Bolivar” Pasinella and Tommy Piscitella from the Eighth Ward, and the Casey brothers, Edward Cahill and Louie Draxler from the Eleventh Ward. The committeemen/women who

Troy Landlord Training Session
 Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 5:30 – 9:30 PM. RPI Heffner Alumni House
 Register by calling TRIP’S Home Ownership Center at 518 690-0020
 Learn about:
Effective tenant screening Code enforcement Eviction process
Nuisance abatement And lots more
 Seating Limited. Light Dinner Will Be Available.
 Co-sponsored by TRIP, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, City of Troy, and
 a coalition of neighborhood associations and community-based agencies.

...Wards, con'd

were on the front line in the wards for the political parties were major players in the political process. Al Bruno and Loretta Foley Bird were two among many who were loyal and hardworking party workers serving for many years in our local wards.

Under the present system, the South Central Troy neighborhood including Little Italy, the Pottery District, Think 1st, Historic Second and the Washington Park area is a part of the Fourth and Fifth Council District.

Some people among us take politics very seriously, some have little or no interest, most of us are somewhere in between – but I don't know of a better system anywhere so let us all make an informed and intelligent decision and then VOTE!

IT'S T-NAC FOR SHORT!

By Mike Esposito

T-NAC – Troy Neighborhoods Action Council is the new kid on the block. It is the volunteer organization formed earlier in the year which brings together many of Troy's neighborhood associations. Among the organizers of the group, Little Italy's Rocco DeFazio was in the forefront recognizing the need to strengthen already existing neighborhood groups and empowering others in Troy to start neighborhood groups and neighborhood watch programs. T-NAC will facilitate the communication of common interests and concerns of residents in the diverse areas of the city. Hilary Lamishaw, Community Specialist for TRIP, Inc is presently the coordinator of the group which recently sponsored a "Meet the Candidates" event at the CYO Center to introduce T-NAC and present questions to the candidates about important neighborhood issues.

Many Troy residents, and those involved in neighborhood associations and neighborhood watch groups volunteer their time and energy on projects from Earth Day events and neighborhood clean-ups to National Night Out programs, festivals and activities for children, and much more. Most groups hold regularly scheduled meetings to plan activities, inform neighbors of local projects, and support local businesses and non-profit service groups, all without much fan fare. Their objective is to improve the quality of life in the community to help retain current residents, welcome new comers and attract the interest of visitors.

T-NAC's goal is to develop and maintain healthy and vibrant neighborhoods in the city of Troy. In speaking of T-NAC, Rocco DeFazio sums up our sentiments: "We are proud of our past and have faith in our future".

AS GOOD A NEIGHBOR AS YOU CAN FIND

Any neighborhood in Troy would be pleased to count among its assets the Troy CYO Center. Fortunately for those of us residing in Troy's Little Italy, we have this terrific agency in the heart of our neighborhood at 237 Fourth Street. As a matter of fact, the highest percentages of families served by the center are residents of South Troy and South Central Troy.

The mission of the agency is to foster and develop the cultural, moral and physical well being of youth and adults and to nurture and aid sound programs in developing character. The Center was affiliated with the Community Chest, now the United Way. Established in 1952 as the Troy Catholic Youth Organization it was first located in a building in Lansingburgh overlooking the CCHS football field. The agency relocated to its present site (the former LaSalle Institute Gym) in 1968. In 1977 it was incorporated as the Troy Youth Association. The agency serves the entire Troy area and parts of Rensselaer, Albany, Saratoga and Columbia counties.

Each week day between 2:15 pm – 5 pm two important programs serve youngsters ages 5 to 12.

The After School Youth Services Program features tutoring, computer work, gym recreation, arts and crafts, and a special tiny tot room for children under 7 (as well as a 52 inch TV); the After School Drop in Program offers use of the gym facilities and arts and crafts. Thanks to a \$20,000 Weed and Seed grant, the Center now offers a Teen Program available from Monday to Friday, 7 – 9 pm which began with the 2007-2008 school year. Call the Center for details on this new program area. The Youth Basketball Program for boys and girls, ages 7 to 13 in grades 2 through 8 is run by parents who volunteer as coordinators and coaches. The Challenge League hosts a weekly house challenge league for handicapped children started by Mr. Pat Miele which has grown to over 50 participants over the years. The Center also provides an outstanding Summer Day Camp for boys and girls ages 5 to 12.

Adult Programs include use of a health room offering a variety of free weights and cardio equipment and specific times for adults to use the gym for recreational basketball leagues. Staffing at the CYO Center consists of two paid adults and paid teen councilors and parents who volunteer. BINGO held each Tuesday at 7 pm at the Bingo Green in the Troy Atrium helps provide much needed funds for the service programs offered. Other fundraisers during the year also help. Office hours at

the Center are Mon. to Fri., 9 am – 5 pm. Call 274-2630 for additional information. Ray Piscitelli is the Executive Director. Our newsletter will continue to do its part to keep you posted on CYO Center activities and fundraisers.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Saturday, December 8 from 10 am – 5 pm, at the Donaghy Parish Center in the basement of St. Mary's Church, 196 Third Street, Troy. Please use the Washington Street entrance. Fine crafts will be available just in time for the holidays! Crafters interested in vending may call Kelly at 272 6819.

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. 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.

TROY KNITTERS

Troy Knitters meets at Flavour Cafe and Lounge, 228 4th St., the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 6pm to 7:30pm. All are welcome, beginners and experts. Bring your projects, sit and knit (or crochet) a spell. www.troyknitters.com.

TROY NIGHT OUT

is the last friday of each month.

Friday, Nov. 30, 5-9pm

DOWNTOWN TROY

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.

MIRACLE ON 34TH ST.

The New York State Theatre Institute will perform 'Miracle on 34th St.' beginning Dec 7 and continuing until Dec. 20. Recommended for ages 7 and older. For more information visit on line at www.nysti.org or call 518.274.3200. Located at 37 First Street, Troy, NY 12180.

RENSSALAER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The 51st Annual Greens show in the Hart-Cluett House will start on Thursday, November 29 and continue until Sunday, December 2. 12 - 5pm daily. Come to see the beautiful holiday decorations in one of the most famous and prestigious homes of old Troy. A winter season event not to be missed!

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

1 Family

47 Adams St., \$129,900, Dave, 365-4467

224 Hill St. \$154,900, Luanne, 286-1000 Ext. 243

103 Ida St., \$42,500, Jim, 588-6755

2 Family

65 Hill St., \$117,900, William, 331-4755

322 4th St., \$130,000, Mary, 640-4535

268 3rd St., \$110,000, Kaylle, 370-2100

282 4th St., \$84,900, David, 369-1712

120 Jefferson St. \$29,900, 452-4298 Ext. 302

374 4th St., \$59,900, Andrew, 885-9200

Multi Units

120 Adam St., \$135,000 Jay, 272-1313

177 4th St., \$189,900 Barbara, 424-5291

159 2nd St., \$259,900, James, 448-5012

276 3rd St., \$180,000, Theron, 279-1166

78 Hill St., \$159,900, Leon, 727-7493

324 4th St., \$125,000, Kathy, 466-2842

Rentals

Washington Park, furnished 2 bedroom Heat and hot water included \$800. Call Marion 266-1406 or mvf1496@aol.com

FOURTH ST. IS SMOOTH AS A BABY'S BOTTOM

Submitted by Jean Krueger

After enduring National Grid's digging up of Fourth Street since last spring which replaced the 150 year old gas main, the grand finale came when new paving was laid during October. And, boy, is it nice. You almost slip on it, it's so darn smooth. We were wondering what would become of good ole US Rt. 4. It was starting to get pretty treacherous, what with the potholes, loose gravel and asphalt patches left from too many winters followed by National Grid's marathon installation. Never mind that some stretches of sidewalk no longer have curbs, who needs 'em.

While crossing the street in front of Vanilla Bean and while taking pictures of the repaving operation I happened to look down at the street and there, where the old paving had been scraped to prepare for the new surface, were granite cobblestones peering up at me. I must say that I was surprised and a little delighted to see this little bit of Troy history exposed. I took a picture of them, too, and while it's a rather boring picture, at least I have proof that they are there, now buried under inches of bitumen, never to see the light of day for another 20 years or so. Do you know how much granite paving goes for these days? Think of it as buried treasure.



Guys scraping up old paving on 4th St.



Exposed cobbles in front of Vanilla Bean

236 4th St., Spacious 2BR,DR, HW floors, fenced yard, gas heat. Recently rehabbed. Couples, Grad Students and Pets welcome. \$750 + utilities. Must supply references. Call Judy 339-4391

213-215 4th St. Under Construction, 1st floor-Retail/Office Space-build to suit, 900 Sq Ft. \$900 per month. Apartment 2 Bedrooms-New Apartments, Air Conditioning-WIFI-\$700 a month. Contact Anthony Cavotta 441-1803.

Little Italy, 1st Fl, 1 bdm flat with office, w/d hook-up, no pets, non smoker, no DSS \$600 + util and sec. Call 271-0280

MAIN STREET COMES TO FOURTH STREET?

Troy Little Italy is considering applying through the City of Troy for a Main Street Grant. These grants are funded through the State and are available to individuals and community groups that identify a specific area to rehabilitate and develop. A recent example of a successful grant application within our City

is the Stanley Building at Third and State Sts. which has used Main St. funding in combination with private capital to return a vacant building to active use as retail and residential space. (Note funds granted the Stanley project amount to a small amount of the total cost of the project.)

What could this mean for Little Italy? Business can have improvements to buildings matched by Main St. funds such as facade repair or new colorful awnings. Residents can have the cost of repairs and energy improvements matched. The important aspect of the Main St. Street program is that the people are required to make a personal or business investment in order to qualify for reimbursement of their expense. New construction qualifies for these benefits.

Are you in need of rehab to your house or business? Do you want to build a new facility? We urge you to consider how you could benefit from the Main Street program. Troy Little Italy will be convening meetings that are open to everyone in order to come up with a plan to take advantage of this economic boost. We

Main St....,Con'd

will notify the neighborhood well in advance once a date for the planning meeting is set.

In the meantime, information about the Main Street program can be obtained from www.ny-mainstreet.org, from the City web site www.troyny.gov/economic_development/main.html or by calling the City of Troy Economic Development Office at (518) 270-4589.

FRANK MEROLA WILL BE MISSED

Frank 'Hank' Merola, son of Troy, will be missed. He passed away on Sunday morning, Nov. 3, 2007.

Many longtime residents remember him from Troy High, or knew him from Merola's Bakery where he helped with the family business located behind their home on Fourth St. He operated Merola's Tavern in Troy in the 1950's and later retired from the Ford Motor Co. in Green Island. He was a member of the K of C in Troy and he loved baseball, playing it in the Troy Amateur League..

His funeral will be held Wednesday morning 11/7, at 8:45 from the Bocketti Funeral Home, 336 Third St. in Troy, and at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Church in Troy where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Entombment will be in St. Mary's Mausoleum. Relatives

and friends are invited to attend and may call at the funeral home Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. Contributions in Frank's memory to the Parkinson Disease & Referral Center at Albany Medical Center would be appreciated.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

SAT., NOV. 10 9AM TO 12PM

Troy Little Italy,
Washington Park, the
Osgood Neighborhood
and everyone else in
South Central Troy is
invited to rake leaves,
bag trash and leave it at
curbside for special DPW
pick-up. Let's clean-up
our streets before winter
arrives.

ALSO!

TOO GOOD TO MISS

**TROY LITTLE ITALY WILL
HAVE IT'S COMMUNITY
RUMMAGE SALE ON THE
SAME DAY 9AM TO 3PM
ON HILL ST. ACROSS FROM
THE MARKET PLACE.
BRING YOUR OLD STUFF TO
SELL FOR A FEE OF \$10/
TABLE OR COME TO FIND
SOME PRIMO BARGAINS
ON CONSUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, CARPET,
CLOTHING, DISHES,
UTENSILS AND MORE.**

TROY MUSIC HALL

Take advantage this season's line up of outstanding performers. Here's a synopsis of who will be there. Go to www.troymusichall.org for all the information you need to make the season a little brighter.

Spanish Harlem Orchestra Thursday, 11/8 8:00 PM

Empire State Youth Orchestra-Fall Concert, 11/11/2007, 3:00 PM.

Albany Symphony Orchestra: Young Artist Showcase, 11/16/2007,8:00 PM

Songs of the Spirit, 11/17/2007,8:00 PM.

Victorian Stroll, 12/2/2007, 12:00: PM, FREE.

George Winston, 12/5/2007, 8:00 PM.

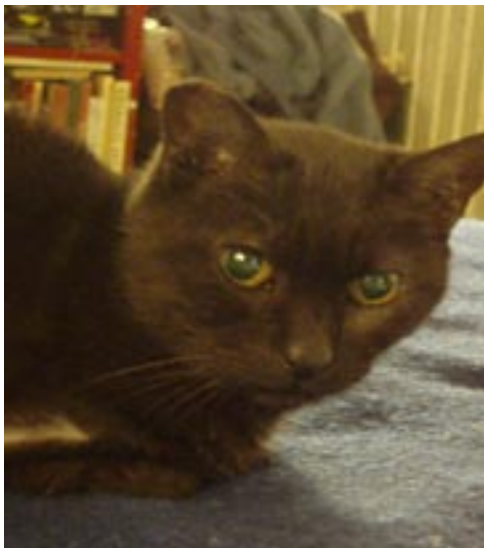
Albany Symphony Orchestra: Memories the Old Country, 12/14/2007, 8:00 PM.

Mountain Snow & Mistletoe, 12/15/2007, 8:00 PM, 12/16/2007, 2:00 PM.

Empire Brass Holiday Concert, 12/19/2007, 8:00 PM.

LaSalle Holiday Concert, 12/20/2007, 7:30 PM.

Remember the FREE Concerts at noon. the schedule for the next two months will present Barbara Eckhaus & William Jones on 11/13/2007 performing classical voice & piano and on 12/11/2007 Patti Melita with Peg & Bill Delaney will bring holiday cheer with seasonal swing.



Blinky

BLINKY WANTS TO BE YOUR FRIEND

This little cat needs a home. She's a stray that was fortunate enough to be found, taken to the Mohawk and Hudson Animal Shelter, checked for disease, given a clean bill of health, spayed, vaccinated and sent back to Troy to find a home. Are you the one? She's 1-2 years old, very affectionate and seems smarter than the average cat. She's mostly black but for a little white star on her chest. Call 518 272 4972 if you can provide a good home for her.



**A Great Holiday Gift for those
who are
TROY AT HEART.
Order now for the holidays.**

Available exclusively at
Flavour Cafe and Grill 228 FourthSt., Troy, NY 12180
518 2669253 www.flavourcafe.com
Allbues Sewing Service 199 4th St. Troy, NY
518 272 4972