

LITTLE ITALY NEWS • APRIL 2010
www.littleitalytroy.org • troylittleitaly@gmail.com

TUTUNJIAN ANNOUNCES 'ALAMO SATURDAYS'

Mayor Harry Tutunjian announced the dates for "Alamo Saturdays" where residents can bring their trash for spring clean up. "The guys in our sanitation department work extremely hard to keep the streets of Troy clean but we can always use the effort from residents when it comes to keeping our neighborhoods and alleys free of debris," said Mayor Tutunjian. "This has been a popular and successful option for residents to take advantage of and I'm happy to announce that for the seventh year in a row the Alamo will be open."

The Alamo is used as a drop off for residents wishing to get rid of excess amounts of trash, and other debris that may be around their house or neighborhood. It is located across from the Rensselaer County Jail in South Troy, off of Main Street. It will be open every Saturday in April and May from 7 A.M. to 2 P.M. From June to November, it will be open every third Saturday of the month. The Alamo is open to Troy residents only, and those using the facility are asked to bring some type of identification with them. The City of Troy will NOT accept the following items: renovation material, construction debris, hazardous materials, and paint cans. There will be a charge of \$3 per tire for residents who wish to get rid of old tires. Additionally, Tutunjian reminded residents that at City Hall, there are bins where residents can drop off fluorescent light bulbs and all batteries except car batteries. Those bins can be located just inside the rear door of City Hall, off of the parking lot. For more information on the Alamo, please call the DPW at 270-4579.



The Earth Day cleanup is on April 24th, 2010. Every year we have had a great turnout of volunteers who are willing to clean up an ugly spot in our neighborhood or just spruce up their own property. This year the city is going to be providing lawn and leaf bags for residents. In the spirit of "going green" please wear one of your t-shirts from a previous cleanup!! If you are interested in working on a particular area, please send an email to scroywatch@gmail.com. We will have some volunteers from the DEFY program to help out with bigger projects and if we can coordinate some extra help for your project, we will! Bags will be available at the Little Italy marketplace at 9:00 on Saturday morning. Please feel free to drop off any old household batteries or fluorescent light bulbs to the market for recycling. Thanks for participating!

STREET CLEANING SCHEDULE FOR LITTLE ITALY

The Dept. of Public Works has scheduled eight weeks of street sweeping for the City of Troy. In order for the City of Troy to be cleaned properly and efficiently, everyone's cooperation is being requested during this eight week program. The schedule for cleaning the streets within Little Italy is:

Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Odd Side:

All Streets from 101st Street to Ida Street and from River Street to 8th Street.

Thursday, April 22, 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., Even Side: All Streets from 101st Street to Ida Street and from River Street to 8th Street.

Here's some helpful information regarding the street cleaning program.

- Become aware of when your area will be cleaned. Check the schedule; it will appear in the Troy Record every Saturday or on the web at www.troyny.gov.
- Please move your cars so that the street sweeper and DPW staff can properly clean your street.
- Sweep or wash your sidewalks and rake your lawns before the sweepers come onto your street and, also sweep the dirt in the curbs and gutters into small piles to help facilitate easy pickup.
- This Program is not for Bulk Trash pickup. Bulk trash pickup is a year long program.
- Uncooperative car owners will have their vehicles towed at the owner's expense (approx. \$125.00). All streets will be posted for "No Parking" as required. Please notify DPW (270-4579) in advance if you know of any abandoned, unregistered or inoperative vehicles.
- Please take a few moments to clean your alley or back yard and cut down any weeds or brush. Please place the material in a biodegradable bag or bundle the brush to facilitate collection.
- Regular refuse collection will be done on a daily basis.



RULES FOR TRASH PICK-UP

City of Troy employee, Bill Chamberlin, Solid Waste Mgmt. Coordinator/Director of Operations, is responsible for solid waste disposal and can be reached at 270-4559 or by email bill_chamberlin@troyny.gov. Contact Bill with questions and concerns regarding trash and garbage collection as well as street cleaning concerns. The following pertains to sanitary services in Troy.

- Below Liberty St. trash pickup is Friday.
- If the back alley is accessible, trash is to be picked up there.
- There is a \$150 fine if it is picked up on Thursday for a Friday pickup.
- The City expects to have a Hazardous Waste Disposal Day scheduled for late summer or early fall. The cost to participate is 20 to 30\$ per car.
- City Hall already has containers to put tubes, light bulbs, and batteries free.
- Latex paint is not hazardous but should be dried out and the top replaced before placing it in garbage.

SOUTH CENTRAL TROY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MONTHLY UPDATE

Our last Neighborhood Watch meeting took place at 6:00 on March 17, 2010 and we had a bonus meeting this month on March 24th with Officer McDonald. Both meetings are summarized below.

Bill Chamberlain from the City of Troy attended our meeting and answered concerns from residents. Bill is the contact person for garbage related issues. Bill's contact information is listed above. Deb Carey from the Crime Victims Assistance Program also spoke and reviewed the numerous services that her organization can provide. If you know someone who has been a victim of a crime, please contact Deb. She can be reached at careydeb@nehealth.com. There will be a fund raiser for the Crime Victims Assistance Program on April 17th. The annual "Walk a Mile in her Shoes" event begins at 10:00 at the Samaritan Hospital Lally Pavillion.

In February, there were 25 arrests in the South Central Troy area. Officer McDonald reviewed recent calls and complaints from residents. It is extremely important that concerns be reported in a timely fashion with as much detail as possible. Officer McDonald can be reached at chris.mcdonald@troynygov.

UPCOMING TRIP EVENT

Register for all classes and events at

register@triponline.org or by calling the TRIP Home Ownership Center at 690-0020.

Home buyer Orientation, April 13, 6-7 PM; 415 River Street, 2nd floor, Troy.

TNAC Troy Neighborhoods Action Council) Meeting: April 14, 5:30 – 7 PM. Location to be determined, contact hilary@triponline.org

Home Maintenance Training, Wednesdays, 6-7:30 PM,

April 14- **Flooring Prep and Installation**,

April 21 - **Wall Repair, Sheetrock & Electrical**

April 28 - **Painting: Prep and Requirements**

April 22 - **Landlord Training** - 5:30 – 9:30 PM,

Italian Community Center, 1450 Fifth Avenue.

Seating limited, registration required.

SOUTH CENTRAL/LITTLE ITALY NEWS

The Record, March 12, 2010, p. 4. Troy could have a new movie theater, by Tom Caprood. Little Italy resident Tim Haskins, Project Manager for the United Development Corporation, gave a presentation to members of the city's planning Board recently on the Congress-Ferry Street corridor project (which, when completed, will have a positive effect on our neighborhood).

The Record, March 20, 2010. Little Italy neighborhood events will go on, by Tom Caprood. Contamination of the MarketPlace a century ago when it served as the location for the Troy Gas Light Company will require remediation according to State government reports. The location - in recent years a busy site for many neighborhood and city-wide events - may have to be closed temporarily, but neighborhood resident and businesswoman Jean Krueger states the city will grant Troy Little Italy permission to use a portion of Hill Street from Liberty to Washington streets for event space.

SOME EXCITING NEWS!!

As a direct result of the hard work of Councilmen Ken Zalewski and Gary Galuski, Corporation Counsel Charlie Sarris, Captain Tedesco and Officer Chris McDonald, the City Council approved a new, tougher, nuisance abatement point system that will make it harder to be a negligent property owner in the City of Troy. Thanks to all for their hard work and good ideas! The new system will extend point accumulation from 12 months to 24 months. This will keep the slate from "being wiped clean" after one year of a

violation. Great news!!!

Our next meeting will be on April 21st at 6:00 at the Freihofer's Race Headquarters 233 Fourth St. Thank you to George Regan for always being so generous with the use of his space

AT LIBERTY

The Saga of an Italo-American Family in South Troy

**By Frank LaPosta Visco
Book Two, Chapter 6**

Peace in the World, Not at Home.

On May 8, 1945, the day the Allies accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany, the world celebrated. It was VE Day --Victory in Europe. Just over 3 months later, on August 15, we celebrated VJ Day – Victory over Japan.

Now, prosperity really was just around the corner, although things would never be the same as they were before the war. Many more women had experienced the liberating sense of worth of being the family breadwinner, and were resentful when the jobs they had been doing were taken away and given to the returning men. Was this the beginning of the equal rights movement for women?

There was still war on the horizon, of course – but it was a Cold War, as Soviet Russia, our ally in the war, began their land grab and swallowed up much of eastern Europe and a divided Germany. At 13 Liberty Street, everyone did their best to return to the way things were, but the men who had been in uniform had seen and experienced too much to be the same as before. Of course, they were idolized as conquering heroes by the family, especially us kids, but we knew enough not to ask too many questions as they packed away their medals and souvenirs.

During the second half of the 1940's, as I got older, I sensed that the two Campobasso women who had married

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

into the Case family, Esther, who was my mother, and Rose, her older sister, didn't seem as cordial as two sisters should be.

It's true that there were many years between them, but it didn't seem as though that was reason enough for some of the remarks that flew back and forth. Even though many of them were in Italian, which the children didn't understand, the adults couldn't hide the tone of the comments. Even though Italian is a beautiful language, there are angry phrases that can be spit out, and on several occasions, they were.

Children don't miss much of what's going on in the adult world, and even in the whispered comments and the attempts to cool down heated arguments, we knew there were things that kept our parents, aunts and uncles on edge.

Turns out that it wasn't just the sensitive nature of Italians and their easily offended sensibilities that caused the heating up of language and the icing over of relationships. There always seemed to be an uneasiness between the sisters, especially when they would take us – me and my double cousins – out for a stroll in the neighborhood. Since two sisters had married two brothers, I had the same grandparents on both sides as my cousins, Rose's children did.

So, I wondered as I got older, why both my mother and her sister seemed at a loss for words whenever people would look at us and assume that we were all beautiful siblings. I certainly came to understand their fear of the malocchio, or evil eye. The way I understood it, Italian superstition said that if a child is praised or envied by someone who doesn't invoke God at the same time, a curse is placed on that child, and it has to be removed. By a strega, the Italian word for witch.

Luckily for us, we didn't have to go far to find someone empowered to remove the evil eye. Another one of my father's sisters, Philomena, lived with her husband Luigi and daughter Annamaria in a flat on Fifth Avenue, around the corner from Liberty, and across the street from Stanton's Brewery.

I remember Aunt Phil putting three drops of oil into water, saying some Italian words, then doing something with needles and scissors to remove the malocchio. What would happen if the curse weren't removed, I'm not sure, but there seems to have been the fear of sickness, or maybe even the secret ritual was performed when a child was already sick, in the belief that the sickness might have been caused by

an inadvertent curse.

I'm not superstitious myself, but I firmly believe that when the malocchio is removed from a mildly sick child, the sickness will disappear in seven days. And that without the ministrations and mumbo jumbo of the strega, the cure will take a week.

In our family, it was said that the ability could be passed on only from mother to daughter, and only on Christmas Eve. I don't think Aunt Philomena taught it to Annamaria, and even if she had, Annamaria didn't have any children, so the practice – in our family – ended there.

But even when someone complimented the beauty or health of me and my double cousins and also invoked the name of God, the Campobasso sisters who became Case sisters still seemed uncomfortable, and often avoided each other for days. There was something they didn't want others to know. I was determined to find out what it was.

©Copyright 2010 Frank LaPosta Visco

Next: In Book 2, Chapter 7: Backyard frolics and another farewell.

Note: The author has begun a weekly factual series of stories of his journey from Troy to "Madison Avenue," at www.ad-missions.blogspot.com – readers and comments are welcome.

GELATERIA LISA OPENS FOR THE SEASON

Spring hours will be 3-7 Tuesday thru Saturday. We have LOTS OF GELATO - COME ON IN!!! Also, Gelato is now available by the pint from It's Only Natural, Stuyvesant Plaza, DeFazio's Imports on 4th in Troy, Honest Weight, Albany and at the Niskayuna Coop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- APRIL 14, TNAC 4/14, 5:30 PM, Location TBD
- APRIL 21, South Central Neighborhood Watch, 6:00 PM, Troy Little Italy Community 7:00, 233 Fourth Street,(4th and Wash.)
- APRIL 22, Weed and Seed, 5:30 PM Italian Community Center, 1450 Fifth Ave.

LITTLE ITALY FARMERS MARKET 2010 SEASON

The Little Italy Farmers Market begins it's third season on June, 2, 2010, 3-6 PM., and will continue every Wednesday thereafter, rain or shine until October 13, 2010. The Farmers Market is a wonderful place to get together with your neighbors as well as pick up fresh and wholesome food from local sources. Food Stamps and WIC benefits are accepted as well as Rensco senior fresh checks and similar government food vouchers. Vendors are sought for produce, prepared foods and crafts, contact troyneighborhoodmkt@gmail.com. The Market will be held on Hill St. between Liberty and Washington St., right off Fourth St. and close to the CDTA No.22, 24 &85 bus line.



delphiniums

TROY LITTLE ITALY ANNUAL EVENTS

- May** - StickBall Tournament and City-wide Garage Sale
- June- October** - Little Italy Farmers Market, Wed., 3-6pm
- June to September** - Cinema under the Stars
- June** - Flag Day Parade
- July** - Drop in Center for young adults
- August** National Night Out
- September** - Italian Community Center Shrine Festa
- September** - International Day in Little Italy
- December** - Victorian Stroll and Christmas in Little Italy

please become our fan on facebook search, **Troy Little Italy** and sign up for timely updates. Send us your neighborhood news.

facebook

4th MARKET REUNION

Come To Enjoy That Special Time Of The 50'S, 60'S And 70'S
In The Market.

Eat, Drink And Share The Stories Of A Glorious Era That Can Never Be Forgotten.

SATURDAY JUNE 5, 2010

at the
ITALIAN COMMUNITY CENTER
1450 5Th Avenue, Troy, New York

AGENDA

4:00 PM – Start

Assorted Hors D'oeuvres

Cocktails – Cash Bar

Beer And Soda Provided

Music – (Dj) Sound Spectrum

Welcome Ceremonies

Toastmaster – Robert “Rabbit” Riley

Invocation – Fr. Mario Julian

Dinner At 6:00PM

Salad, Italian Bread,

Sausage & Peppers,

Ziti & Meatballs,

Eggplant Parmigiana, Chicken Wings,

Dessert And Coffee

TICKETS \$25.00 PER PERSON

(Must be purchased by May 31, 2010)

Tickets can be purchased by mailing a check, made out to the market reunion
and sent to:

Market Reunion, PO Box 16

Troy, New York 12182

For More Info, Contact The ICC At 274-0508 Ext. 17

A NIGHT FOR THE THEATRE

Save Troy Proctor's is sponsoring an event on Saturday evening, May 1st to support the restoration of the historic theatre. The night will begin with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at the Frear Building, followed by additional courses at historic houses in Troy, and conclude at the Frear Building for dessert and entertainment. Tickets are \$50. For reservations or information go to TroyProctors.com, contact Fundraising@TroyProctors.com, or call 274-0418.

LITTLE ITALY REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITIES

For Sale

1 FAMILY

191 Second St. \$494,900 Karen

892-1326

164 Second St. \$249,000 Michael

813-6049

1023 Fifth Ave. \$119,900 Cindy

269-8278

56 Havermans Ave. \$139,900 Deb

383-8347

261 Liberty St. \$39,900 Harvey

466-1303

2 FAMILY

42 Ida St. \$45,900 Patricia

885-9121

198 Hill St. \$99,500 James

857-5427

121 Adam St. \$104,900 Douglas

724-6871

62 Ida St. \$95,000 Kareem

542-3566

118 Adams St. \$89,900 Brian

253-7094

MULTI UNITS

191-193 Second St. \$849,000 Karen

892-1326

263 Fourth St. \$79,900

Douglas

724-6871

80 Havermans Ave. \$99,999 Sandra

858-8083

114 Washington St. \$168,500 Michael

813-6049

I Irving Place \$215,500 Richard

852-1365

COMMERCIAL

199 Fourth St. \$99,900 Marion

961-0590

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

IN LITTLE ITALY

1BD Crystal, Gilt, Marble Living Rm;

Newly Rehab Kitch;

Free Off-Street Parking. \$800/m Security

& References. No Smokers or Section 8.

Emily 518-207-7285

2 BR Apartment on Hill St. Owner

Occupied. Large, open living room, high

ceilings, claw foot tub and other charm.

Heat included, tenant pays electric and

gas. Pet Friendly with extra security.

\$750.00/mo, 1 mo. security, Amanda 845-

494-9983 or ajoymess@yahoo.com.

1BDR Crystal, Gilt, Marble Living Rm;

Newly Rehab Kitch; Free Off-Street

Parking. \$800/m Security & References.

No Smokers or Section 8. Emily 518-

207-7285

For Rent in owner-occupied brownstone:

Ground-floor, four-room apt., partially

furnished, fully equipped kitchen, cable

and all utilities included, \$700 per month,

plus security deposit and references.

No smoking, no pets. Bus service and

Stewart's steps away., Available June first.

Call 518-326-3423.



**Bowling
for
Recreation**

**Uncle
Sam
Lanes**

**Cost:
\$15**



Bowl-A-Thon

**Saturday
5/22/10
1-5 pm**



Session 1

12:30 □ 2:30 sign in at noon



Session 2

3:00 □ 5:00 sign in at 2:30

***Proceeds will benefit the
South Central Recreation
Center!***

There will be drawings, door prizes, and a silent auction.

AGENCIES: Troy Little Italy, Italian Community Center, Troy Youth Association, Rensselaer Co., City of Troy, Sage Colleges, Westside Waterfront Weed and Seed, P.A.L., Valley Cats



May 1 & 2

"WE PLAY FOR FOOD"

To benefit Rensselaer County food pantries.

DATE: May 1 & 2

TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Little Italy
Market Place

Thanks to the support of the following teams, last year, almost \$5,000 was raised in non-perishable food items. We plan to raise even more this year.

ARC	School 12 Faculty & Staff
Capital News 9 & Marissa Jacques	Tri-City Valley Cats
FLY92	Troy Boys and Girls Club
Hembold's	Troy Firefighters
Little Italy Bingo Committee	WXXA & John Gray
Fran McCaffrey & Siena Basketball team	



Enjoy a weekend of stickball and music highlighted with a performance from the area's favorite cover band, **The Refrigerators - Saturday, May 1st**. Bring your friends and family!

How can you participate? Just bring a donation of non-perishable food items to help our local food pantries. They are facing tough challenges today trying to support an increasing number of families with food for their tables. Your donation will make a difference.

We hope teams will sign up to play in a stickball tournament in the Little Italy Market Place from early morning to late afternoon on Saturday. Teams are also asked to make a contribution of non-perishable food items as entry into the tournament. Music and entertainment will be provided by some of the Capital District's best-known musicians and bands.

Local celebrities will be asked to compete in a stickball challenge to see who can raise the most donations.

In these hard times we realize money is tight, so we hope you will take a look in your cupboards and pantries to see what you can donate. **If you're a college student preparing to leave for the summer, please consider donating non-perishable food items accumulated during the school year.**

For more information contact Rocco DeFazio at 271-1111 or rdefazio@nycap.rr.com.

Spring into Action!

City Wide

Garage Sale

Every Saturday in May

at the Market Place in Troy Little Italy
(Hill St between Washington and Liberty)

May 1st

May 8th

May 15th

May 22nd

May 29th

7 to 11 am

Set up time at
6 am

Clean out your basements, cellars, attics, backyard and

closets. Turn your unused items into **\$\$\$\$\$\$**

First Come First Served; Claim your Space! **Only \$10.00**

Call Andrea 470-7369 or All Blues 272-4972

**INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL
AFFAIRS INITIATIVES
SPRING 2010**

Dark alleys? Not in Troy, New York. Troy's Alley Action Project is fortunate to have to ICA colleagues (and South Central neighbors), Dorcas and Ken Rose on board for the past four years. Their enthusiasm for the alley murals project and other alley improvement projects is shared by dozens of people who have made a difference in a short period of time.

CALL FOR GARDENS

The Friends of Prospect Park are holding the 11th annual "Hidden Garden Tour" on Thursday, May 27, 2010, from 4 to 7 PM. We are reaching out to neighbors in Little Italy, the Pottery District, Historic Sage, Think First, and Washington Park to find scenic gardens & friendly gardeners willing to be one of the stops on the walking tour. This annual tour raises money to buy benches, buy and plant new trees, and make improvements in Prospect Park. For more information, please contact Cleo Mook (326-6413) or Nina Pattiison (274-5933).

FLAVOUR CAFE HAS SOFT-SERVE!

Flavour Cafe, 228 Fourth St., has recently added softserve ice cream to the menu,, the only place in downtown or South Troy where you can get it. Now that those hot spring and summer days have arrived, choose from one of Flavour's many specialty sundaes, dishes, floats or cones. Also available are specialty espresso and non-espresso based shakes, smoothies, slushies and Italian sodas in over 50 flavours..

**JOIN US FOR
COMEDY NIGHT**

**The Italian Community Center
Charitable Foundation**

1450 Fifth Avenue

Troy, New York

April 17, 2010

7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.

Entertainment provided by
Vinny Mark and Erik
James of the Comedy Works

MENU

Antipasto

Pizza

Coffee, Tea and Dessert

CASH BAR (member prices)

\$15.00 per person

For reservations call or see:

Mary Jane Ciccarelli (283-3101) or

Call the ICC, leave a message, 274-0508, x 5

PERSON OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

On Thursday, April 29th the CYO-Troy Youth Association is honoring Marion Field, Rocco Defazio, & Michael Esposito as well as presenting The Humanitarian Award to Pat Miele. The dinner will be held at the Italian Community Center (1450 Fifth Avenue, Troy, N.Y.) from 6 to 8 pm. Tickets are \$40 a person, \$70 a couple and a table of 8 for \$250. If you have not received an invitation yet and would like to attend, please call Ray at the center, 274-2630 or email troylittleitaly@gmail.com



Rocco DeFazio



Marion Field



Mike Esposito