

“PAST & PRESENT”

MONSIGNOR J. JOHN BUSCO, “ITS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO READ THE JUDSON JOURNAL. I READ IT AS SOON AS IT ARRIVES. THANKS FOR THE CALENDAR YOU SENT ME! IT’S AMAZING HOW YOU AND YOUR STAFF CAN GET ALL THE INTERESTING NEWS AND PUBLISH IT. BEST WISHES TO ALL OF YOU!”

ELEANOR MARCELLINO BALMOS, “I AM ENCLOSING A DONATION FOR THE JJ. THANK YOU FOR SENDING IT TO OUR HOMES. EVERYONE ENJOYS READING THE PAPER.”

MILDRED HAYOWAY BOYLE, “THE JUDSON JOURNAL, WHAT A GREAT IDEA! SORRY I DIDN’T KNOW ABOUT IT SOONER. PLEASE PUT ME ON THE MAILING LIST! ENCLOSED IS A DONATION.”

JULIE PETRONE SIMON BERARDO, “ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THREE NEW 2007 CALENDARS; THE BALANCE IS A DONATION. I JUST RECEIVED MINE, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS WONDERFUL! WHAT GREAT MEMORIES OF THE DANCES AT ST. MARY’S. I SAW DOZENS OF MY FRIENDS IN THE CALENDAR, INCLUDING MYSELF. I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THESE CALENDARS TO MY FAMILY AS CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. THANKS AGAIN FOR ALL YOUR GOOD WORK!”

STEVEN BORGIONI, SME 1958, “ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR A CALENDAR AND THE

BALANCE IS FOR EXPENSES. IF THERE ARE NO MORE CALENDARS AVAILABLE, USE IT ALL FOR EXPENSES. RELIVING THE PAST WITH YOUR TERRIFIC ARTICLES IS WELL WORTH IT. PRICELESS EVEN! IT’S HARD TO IMAGINE THAT IT’S BEEN THAT LONG AGO THAT WE ATTENDED THE SME CLASS OF 1958. IN A SHORT TIME IT WILL BE 50 YEARS. WOW...50 YEARS... WHO THOUGHT BACK THEN THAT WE WOULD HAVE MADE IT THIS FAR. ANYBODY OVER 30 WAS ALREADY ANCIENT IT SEEMED. GUESS WE KNOW BETTER NOW. NOW WE THINK THAT THOSE IN THEIR 30’S ARE MERE CHILDREN. AMAZING HOW WE CHANGE OUR OUTLOOK AS WE MATURE.”

VERONICA CAPUANO 2964 N TAYLOR ST. SME CLASS OF 1967, “SEND ME TWO CALENDARS, KEEP THE BALANCE FOR EXPENCES. I ENJOY GETTING THE JJ, LIFE WAS SO EASY BACK THEN. WISH WE COULD ALL GO BACK IN TIME. I MISS IT. THANK YOU!”

JULIE MIGNONE CIAUDELLI, “THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE WONDERFUL EDITIONS OF THE JJ. IN EVERY SINGLE ISSUE, I FIND NAMES OF THOSE PEOPLE SO WELL REMEMBERED AND I AM GRATEFUL. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK TO COVER THE UPCOMING JOURNALS. MY LATE FATHER’S TAILOR SHOP WAS MENTIONED IN YOUR OCTOBER 15, 2006 EDITION. IT

WAS MISPELLED-ACTUALLY IT SHOULD HAVE READ “MIGNONE’S TAILOR SHOP. WE LIVED AT 3020 N 21ST STREET AND WE WERE FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH GOOD NEIGHBORS. ON PALM SUNDAY WE LOST OUR BROTHER, TOM MIGNONE. I’M SURE THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO REMEMBER TOM. HE WAS WELL KNOWN IN THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD, HE WAS IN THE MARINES DURING WWII AND WAS WOUNDED IN IWO JIMA. I WAS HAPPY TO READ OF THE SAVING OF THE BRONZE PLAQUE FROM THE SONS OF ITALY BUILDING ON TORONTO STREET. WE OWE A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO RAY AND MARIE BALESTRUCCI AND PETER ROSSETTI FOR ALL THEIR EFFORT IN ACCOMPLISHING THIS. MY FATHER WAS PRESIDENT OF THE SONS OF ITALY LODGE FOR OVER 20 YEARS, SO UNTIL I LEFT THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN 1956, I WAS AWARE OF MANY OF THE HAPPENINGS THERE. GOD BLESS US ALL AND LETS NOT FORGET TO KEEP MSGR. BUSCO AND EACH OTHER IN OUR PRAYERS.”

ANNAMARIE COLANGELO, “THANKS FOR ALL THE MEMORIES. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR A COPY OF ROCKY BUMPS AND THE BALANCE IS TO HELP OFFSET YOUR EXPENSES.”

JULIA CRISTANI, 2000 BLOCK OF STELLA STREET, “I RECEIVED THE WONDERFUL 2007 CALENDAR. IT’S JUST

GREAT! I TRULY ENJOY EVERY MONTH AND THE PICTURES. I LOVE THE PANICO CELEBRATION. I'M SURE IT WAS COUSIN LILY & COSMO'S SPECIAL OCCASION. JUST TO SEE THEM ALL IS A BLESSING. THANKS SO MUCH FOR HAVING THE JJ. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR YOUR EXPENSES."

JOSEPHINE BILARDO D'AMBRA GULINO, "I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT. ALSO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU WROTE IN THE JJ IT WAS VERY TOUCHING. THERE ARE JUST SO MANY SPECIAL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD AND YOU ARE ONE OF THEM. GOD HAS BLESSED US WITH YOU TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR WHATEVER YOU NEED TO KEEP THIS GOING."

GENE "SHADOW" DEMARCO, 2020 W INDIANA AVENUE. "THANK YOU FOR KEEPING ME INFORMED ABOUT THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. IT'S GREAT READING THE STORIES AND HEARING SOME OF THE NAMES AND PLACES. IT SURE MAKES YOU THINK ABOUT THINGS WE DID BACK THEN AND WHAT A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD WE HAD TO GROW UP. WE HAD FRIEHOFFER'S BAKERY, SHIBE PARK AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE YARD. WE HAD COLLINS FIELD, WHERE IF WE MOVED THE ROCKS WE COULD PLAY FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL. WE ALSO USED THE FIELD TO PARK CARS FOR THE GAMES

AT SHIBE PARK. WE HAD BAYARDS WALL AT 20TH & INDIANA, WHICH WE USED TO PLAY HALFBALL AFTER CHURCH ON SUNDAY. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MY COUSIN MARYBETH FOR HER ARTICLE. SHE NOT ONLY MENTIONED A GREAT GUY, BOBBY, BUT REMINDED ME THAT WE ALL DID HAVE NICKNAMES BACK THEN. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK BILL BRENDLEY, MY CLASSMATE, ON HIS GREAT MEMORY OF OUR OTHER CLASSMATES. HERE ARE A FEW THAT I CAN REMEMBER: MARIE PARIS, MARY TOMASSI, LORETTA LAURIA, EDA NANNI, WALTER COSTELLO AND LOUIS STAZI. THAT'S ALL I CAN REMEMBER FOR NOW. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY HELLO TO ALL WHO ARE STILL AROUND. I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION THE ARTICLE ABOUT MY COUSIN AO, ITS GREAT TO KNOW WE HAVE A HERO IN THE FAMILY. ALSO THANKS TO ALL THE LOVELY AND CHARMING LADIES WHO ATTENDED THE SHARON HILL REUNION AT CAPE MAY."

CONNIE D'ANDREA, "I AM ENCLOSING A CHECK FOR YOUR EXPENSES. KEEP IT UP-I LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD!"

VIOLET DIGIACOMO GARBARINO, "READING THE JJ HAS BROUGHT BACK SO MANY FOND MEMORIES FOR ME. I THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING US WITH A LOOK BACK INTO OUR PAST-IT'S SO WONDERFUL. ENCLOSED IS A

CHECK FOR A CALENDAR. THANK YOU!"

DOMENIC LEPONE SME 1950, "THANK YOU FOR MY 2007 CALENDAR, IT IS GREAT! ENCLOSED IS A CHECK TO SUPPORT THE JJ."

GENE AND GILDA LUCARINI, "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THE 2007 CALENDAR. PLEASE KEEP THE BALANCE FOR THE GREAT JOB WITH THE JJ. LOVE IT!"

PATRICIA MCCLELLAN 2900 BLOCK OF BONSALL, "I REMEMBER VITO AND HIS CANDY STORE ON THE CORNER OF BONSALL AND INDIANA, I RECALL IN THE SUMMER ALL OF THE GUYS WOULD CROWD INTO THE STORE AND SOMEBODY WOULD TRY TO DRINK A BOTTLE OF PEPSI IN ONE GULP. IF HE DID IT, VITO WOULD GIVE EVERYBODY IN THE STORE A FREE PEPSI. I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALL SWELL THE ONE NIGHT I HAPPENED TO BE THERE GETTING LUCKY STRIKES FOR MY DAD AND GULP DOWN IT WENT. I KNOW ABOUT THE MIALETTI'S. JOHN IS A REALTIVE-IN-LAW. HE MARRIED GERRI KOSTRO AND THEY HAVE 2 ADULT DAUGHTERS AND A COUPLE OF GRANDCHILDREN AND LIVE IN BUCKS COUNTY. RICHIE MARRIED SHEILA KELLY AND THEY HAVE 3 ADULT DAUGHTERS. SHEILA WAS BEST FRIENDS WITH OUR CHILDHOOD BABY-SITTER, NANCY STRITTMATTER (2918

BONSALL) AND THEY STILL KEEP IN TOUCH. NANCY AND I HAVE ALSO KEPT IN TOUCH. MY DAD WORKED FOR SCHROTH BROTHERS UNTIL THE DAY HE DIED. THEY DID CARPENTRY AND CABINET MAKING AND JUST ABOUT EVERY TURNED AROUND ALTER IN THE ARCHDIOCESE. THANKS FOR REMINDING ME OF MY CHILDHOOD DAYS!"

CARLO NICASTRO -SON OF LUIGI "GI-GI" NICASTRO & NANCY SPERA, BROTHER OF DAVID AND MARK, COUSIN TO PAT (WORLD CLASS RUNNER).

AN OPEN LETTER TO MONSIGNOR BUSCO: YOU INSPIRED AND GUIDED YOUR FLOCK TO GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS, THIS IS ONLY ONE OF MANY.

ON OCTOBER 17, 2006 MY BROTHER DAVE, 52 AND FOUR OTHER AMERICANS FLEW TO AUSTRALIA TO REPRESENT THE USA IN THE SINGLE LIFT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. WHEN HE WAS FIRST INVITED HE WAS HESITANT IN GOING BUT MARK AND I TALKED HIM INTO MAKING THE TRIP, MOM WAS SCARED. DAVE NOT ONLY WON THE 161 POUND DEAD LIFT CHAMPIONSHIP, BUT IN DOING SO HE SET A NEW WORLD RECORD LIFTING 610 POUNDS. THIS WAS HIS 2ND WORLD RECORD OF THE DAY. THIS UNBELIEVABLE LIFT EARNED HIM ALSO THE TITLE OF THE WORLDS BEST LIFTER AT THE MEET DEFEATING A RUSSIAN WHO OUT WEIGHTED HIM. HE CAME HOME WITH

FOUR GOLD METALS AND THREE TROPHIES (OUTSTANDING LIFTER IN THREE CATERGORIES). THE AMAZING THING IS THREE YEARS AGO HE HAD SURGERY TO REPAIR HIS LEFT BICEP THAT WAS TORN FROM THE BONE AND TWO YEARS AGO IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT HE BROKE SEVEN RIBS, SNAPPED HIS LEFT KNEE CAP IN TWO AND OTHER INJURIES. THERE IS THE OLD SAYING, "IF YOU WANT SOMETHING BAD ENOUGH GO FOR IT AND HARD WORK WILL PAYOFF." THE OTHER AMAZING THING IS THAT DAVE TRAINS HIMSELF IN HIS BASEMANT WHILE THE FOREIGN ATHLETES HAVE COACHES, TRAINERS, AND THE BEST OF FACILITIES. HE HAS BEEN INVITED TO DEFEND HIS TITLE NEXT YEAR IN ITALY. AT THE PRESENT TIME HE IS NOT SURE IF HE WANTS TO CONTINUE SUCH HARD TRAINING. MARK, POP AND I HOPE HE GOES TO ITALY, SO WE CAN ALL GO WITH HIM. THIS LITTLE ITALIAN BOY FROM ST. MARY'S SCHOOL DEFEATED THE WORLD!"

MIKE PASCIULLO, "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR 6 CALENDARS AND THE REMAINDER IS TO HELP WITH THE WORK YOU DO FOR US!"

JOHN PICARIELLO, "THANK YOU FOR ALL THE YEARS OF GREAT STORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE FAMILIES THAT MADE THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHAT IT WAS. I RECENTLY MET RAY

SPERA'S SON RAY AT A GET-TOGETHER WITH SOME FRIENDS FROM WORK. WHEN HE INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS RAY SPERA I HAD TO TAKE A SECOND AND STEP BACK TO PUT SOME SPACE BETWEEN US TO MAKE SURE I HEARD HIM CORRECTLY. I EXPLAINED TO RAY THAT MY REACTION TO HIS INTRODUCTION WAS PURELY INSTINTIVE. I INFORMED HIM THAT I KNEW HIS FAMILY. HE TOLD ME THAT HIS DAD HAD PASSED AWAY A FEW YEARS AGO AND WAS CURIOUS IF I KNEW HIS DAD BACK IN THE DAY. RAY'S GILRFIEND EMILY WHO I WORKED WITH A FEW YEARS AGO AND WHO IS A VERY CHARMING YOUNG LADY ASKED IF I KNEW ANY STORIES ABOUT RAY'S DAD THAT I COULD SHARE WITH HER AND RAY. I EXPLAINED TO THEM THAT I DID NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT INTERACTION WITH RAY'S DAD, BECAUSE OF THE AGE DIFFERENCE BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY. THAT BRINGS ME BACK TO YOU AND YOUR READERS OF THE JJ. I WENT BACK THROUGH SOME OLD JJ'S AND FOUND ONE FROM 1999 TITLED "MEET ME AT THE CAHILL FAIR" THE ARTICLE LISTED SOME OF THE NAMES I ASSOCIATED WITH RAY SPERA NAILS, AND BUCKY. RAY'S NAME WAS NOT IN THE ARTICLE, SO I'M NOT SURE THAT HE WAS IN THE SAME AGE GROUP OR NOT. THE OTHER PERSON I REMEMBER RAY BEING ASSOCIATED WITH WAS "FRANNY THE SPIC" AND I

KNOW FRANNY IS NO LONGER WITH US. IF YOU KNOW OR IF ANY OF THE READERS OF THE JJ HAVE ANY MEMORIES OF RAY SPERA COULD THEY SEND THEM TO YOU OR E-MAIL ME DIRECTLY AT lovegolf@ptd.net or to emily@bittenbenderconstruction.com, YOU WOULD GIVE RAY SPERA A CONNECTION TO HIS PAST."

DOROTHY PATRIZI RIVIEZZO, "ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR THE BEAUTIFUL CALENDAR, WHICH I REALLY ENJOY. I COULD NOT PUT IT DOWN UNTIL I READ EACH MONTH. KEEP IT UP! JJ I LOVE IT!"

RONALD ROCCO, "THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES OF A GOLDEN ERA. GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN. ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR EXPENSES."

FRANK VIOLA SME 1963, "I GREW UP AT 2119 W. INDIANA AVE. WITH MY BROTHER ARTHUR (SKIP) AND SISTER KAREN. MY GODPARENTS WERE ROSE & NICKY BELLO. MY BEST FRIEND WAS ANTHONY CRISCI (2932 N 23RD ST.). HE GRADUATED WITH ME FROM SME. WE WERE FRIENDS FROM THE FIRST TIME WE MET AT A MEETING OF CUB SCOUT PACK 245 WHEN WE WERE EIGHT YEARS OLD AND REMAINED THE BEST OF PALS FOR OVER 40 YEARS UNTIL HE PASSED AWAY IN DECEMBER OF 1998. HE ALWAYS SAID THAT HE WANTED TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. HIS WORKING TITLE WAS "WHEN

WE WERE ALL TOGETHER." YOUR WORK WITH THE JJ HAS MADE THAT DREAM OF HIS A REALITY. PLEASE ACCEPT THIS CHECK TO HELP DEFRAY THE COSTS."

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all of the old neighborhood friends that attended the memorial Mass this past November. The Mass is celebrated in honor of the men from St. Mary's parish who made the "Ultimate Sacrifice" during WWII. There were 110 people who attended Mass and 98 who were at the reception following the Mass. We are deeply grateful to Turk Perilli, Lou Viola, Diamond Dan Perilli and Virginia Ciammetti for their help with the reception in the Rectory Hall.

Gus Ludovici & Pat Ciammetti

VIRGIL A. SBRAGA 1921 - 2006

"A LIFE WELL LIVED IS WORTH REMEMBERING"

VIRGIL DIED ON OCTOBER 4, 2006 IN WASHINGTON TWP. NJ. BELOVED FATHER OF MICHAEL, LUCY REED, JAMES AND VINCENT A. DEAR BROTHER OF LYDIA LISA AND HILDA PACIFICO. VIRGIL SERVED AS A CORPORAL IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY DURING WWII. HE WORKED AS A MACHINIST FOR GE IN PHILADELPHIA FOR 42 YEARS."

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

To all you JJ readers who have purchased the 2007 Nostalgic Calendar. We still have some available. Please send your check for \$6.50/calendar to the Judson Journal PO Box 58 Haddon Heights, NJ 08035! Mario Amici has done another fantastic job on the 3rd edition of this nostalgic calendar. The reviews have been wonderful! We only had 300 of this edition printed, because we still have 400 of the last edition of which we printed 750. There are only 63 of the 2007 calendars that are available.

PRAYER TO SAINT RITA OF CASIA. MY CONSOLER.

GLORIOUS ST. RITA, THOU WHO MIRACULOUSLY SHARED IN THE PAINFUL PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, OBTAIN THAT I MAY BEAR THE SORROWS OF THIS LIFE WITH RESIGNATION, AND PROTECT ME IN ALL MY NEEDS.

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