

Growing Up in the Butcher Shop: A Tale of Twin Cites/ Una Storia di Gemello Cita Roseto, Pennsylvania. U.S.A. / Roseto Valfatore, Foggia Italia

Ciao Amici,
I am pleased to share with you my visit with my Zio Antonio D'Avanzo (Uncle Anthony). My Zio was Sindaco (Mayor) of Roseto Valfatore, Italy for five terms or 25 years, ending in 2000. Many Rosetans from the U.S.A. have met him when they went to Roseto Valfatore, Italy on vacation. One activity Zio likes to do is trace family roots at the municipal building. Family trees can be looked up according to the church's documentations of births, baptisms, weddings, and

deaths. It has been 12 years since my mom and her brother have seen each other. Although they do call each other on the phone once a week, this visit has been long over due and so heart warming.

We recently attended the "Swearing in Ceremony" of the new Mayor of Roseto, Desiree DeNicola. My Uncle went along with us so he could meet her and see some of the political system here in this country compared to Roseto Valfatore. I found it fascinating how the two towns mirror each other in certain ways. At one time Roseto Valfatore had a population of 5,000. Now it has diminished to 1,200. There is no work there. When asked why the people of Roseto Valfatore don't immigrate to this community; the answer is simple; there is no work here either. Most of them move to Toronto, England, Germany or were they may have some relation and can find work. My Uncle was telling us that in 1883 the first immigrants from Roseto, Italy came to New York first and after six months of quarantine, came to Bangor to work in the quarry because of their experience working in the quarries in Italy. They settled in what is known as our own Borough of Roseto. Later in the 1930's and '40's they came here because there was work in the garment industry. We talked about how my mom came to Hamilton, Ontario to be maid of honor for her best friend whom Dad also attended and they were introduced to each other by my Dad's cousin Danny Petuccini. They were married in Hamilton on Labor Day. My Dad says it was because Grandpop and Grandmom didn't want to close the Butcher Shop on a weekend when customers would need their meat for gravy; that's why my parents got married on a Monday.

My Mom had to wait six months to come to the United States after they were married. The laws were stricter then. When asked why my Uncle never immigrated here, he said it was because my Grandfather, Giuseppe (Whom I am named) passed away at the age of 52. Since he was the oldest son, he returned home from the army to help his mom with the younger brothers and sisters and help in their café, bar and hotel business. That seemed to happen more often in those days; family first (famiglia primo). There were seven Roman Catholic Churches in Roseto Valfatore at one time and there were seven priests; each had their own church. Now there are only two churches. Similar to the United States, Italy also has a shortage of priests.

Plans are now being discussed for Roseto Pennsylvania's 100 Th Anniversary in 2012 (cento anni). Zio Antonio hopes to join in the celebration.

Non c'e rosa senza spina
There is no rose without a thorn
There is no joy without sorrow.
Best Regards / Con cordiali saluti

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EASTON, PA – The Family YMCA of Easton, Phillipsburg & Vicinity will host an Open House for the public on Sunday, January 31, 2010 from 8:30am-6:00pm at the main location of 1225 West Lafayette Street, Easton, PA.

In response to the economic needs of the community, the Family YMCA will slash their Joiners Fees for the month of January only. The public is invited to come to the Family YMCA and take a tour of the facilities, speak with staff about programs and services offered at the main location and throughout the community, and learn about financial assistance.

House, contact Kimberly J. Rose, Member Services Director, at 610.258.6158 ext. 16 or kim@familyymca.org.

The Family YMCA, a 501(c) 3 entity, offers more than 100 different programs and services annually in the areas of aquatics, camping, youth/adult sports, wellness, health and fitness, child care, active older adults, family life, teen leadership, recreation and resources/services. Financial assistance is available to those who qualify. No one is turned away from the Family YMCA because of inability to pay for programs or services.

For more information about this event or programs and services offered by the Family YMCA, please call 610/258-6158.

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Blue Valley Men's Pool League Scores January 6, 2010

Mineral Springs 10 Roseto Legion 7; Wind Gap Legion 10 Bangor VFW A 5; Ziggy's 11 Five Points A 5; Devery's 12 Danet's 3; Five Points B 11 Penna Roadhouse 4; Bangor VFW B 9 Pen Argyl Rep. Club A 6; Pen Argyl Rep. Club B 12 Roseto R & G 4.

Standings thru January 6, 2010
Division A- Pen Argyl Rep. Club B 159, Five Points A 155, Mineral Springs 132, Roseto R&G 124, Five Points B 110, Penna. Roadhouse 78, Bangor VFW A 66. Division B- Wind Gap Legion 142, Devery's 132, Pen Argyl Rep. Club A 130, Roseto Legion 122, Bangor VFW B 114, Ziggy's 113, Danet's 60

SlateBelt Quoit League scores 1/7/10

Columbia Fire 39 - Second Ward Fire 17, Bill Brugler 12-2, Todd

Lakey 11-1, Todd Albert 11-3, Kraig Kuster 10-0
Hillside R&G 31 - Bangor Elks 24, Dan Miller 10-4, Steve Bussinger 4 timer over Adam Kluska
Bangor Jax 37 - East Bangor Fire 19, Wayne Hill 12-2, Dave GiaQuinto, Ryan Kreider 10-4
Roseto R&G 39 - Rescue Fire 17, Larry Mucklin 12-2, Kevin Hall 11-3, Larry Lobb 8-6
Pen Argyl Legion 35 - Bangor VFW 21, Pidgy Miller 13-1, Brookes Kromer, Calvin Stocker 10-4, Eric Communale, Brad Berthoff 8-6
Knowlton Legion 41 - Roseto Legion 15, Jeff Lindsay 13-1, Chris Spinks 11-3, Bob Vargo Jr 10-4
Liberty Fire 31 - Oneills Place 25, Marty Cory 12-2, Bill Rogers 9-5, Derek Spence, Jack Bellis 8-6
Standings: Division 1- Knowlton Legion 15-0, Pen Argyl Legion 12-3, Columbia Fire 12-3, Roseto R&G 12-3, Bangor Jax 10-5, Liberty Fire 7-8, East Bangor Fire 6-9. Division 2- Hillside R&G 8-7, Oneills Place 8-7, Bangor Elks 8-7, Bangor VFW 4-11, Rescue Fire 1-14, Second Ward Fire 1-14, Roseto Legion 1-14

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