

Hi Folks:

Boy, I sure found out how to get quick replies from you folks, all I have to make is an error. I recently did, on April 1st, I joked that it was a fictional day and many a joke was pulled on that date. Well this is no joke, living alone I have to call the Police dept. ever morning and tell them I am alright. This is a very good program that the Lavallette Police dept uses to protect its citizens living alone.

I called and the Policeman, who had recognized my voice, knew I was in trouble, so he sent a policeman over to check on me. They came and suggested that I go to the hospital. 911 was called and an ambulance came and I was brought to the Brick Memorial Hospital where my Doctor practices. For ten days they treated me for Bronchitis and Congestive Heart Failure. They immediately wanted to install a Pacemaker in me but I said no, but that's another story, which I will relate to you before I croak. This is no April Fools joke; this is the real thing.

While laying in the Hospital and about April 3rd my Granddaughter Julie found me and told me that there was a call on my answering machine and it was from a member of the Varsity club notifying me of the death of a member. Here is the error that I should have checked. I sent out e-mail of the death of this person, and boy did I get immediate response. I got a telephone call from the so called dead person, telling me he is very much alive, I apologized to him and he wound up asking me what was wrong with me that I was hospitalized and I told him.

The above was not an Aprils Fools joke it is real and the following deaths are real. Two noted Irvington athletes have passed away recently, in the month of March 7, *Al Oberman* who was a former Irvington High School All State Pitcher, died at the age of 79. Al was a roofing and siding contractor for Consolidated Roofing in Charlotte, N. C. Al, also played for the Irvington Sports Club in the Irvington Twilight League.

Jimmy Moyer passed away on Easter Sunday April 20th. Jimmy was a football hero in the 40's and gave the fans of Irvington High many a trill while running for a touchdown for his Alma Mater. Jimmy was married to Caroline Ulrichny "Ricki", who was a cheerleader and were high school sweethearts.

I received a wonderful letter from Dottie (Bechtoldt) Vieser wife of the deceased Ellis Vieser. She writes the following: I thought I would send you this article from our local newspaper. Of course I am very proud of Ellis, he gave what he believed was good for the State of New Jersey. The bridge that was dedicated to him was Route 9 south over the Raritan.

Both Ellis and I are graduates of Irvington High He played football and I was a flag swinger. My Dad was manager of the Sanford Theatre and he had many of the fellows ushering for him. We would have been married 57 years when Ellis passed away in June 2001 He was a wonderful husband and father. We had a

wonderful life together with many great memories and we have two wonderful sons, Randy and Steven.

I hope this finds you well, and I wish to thank you so much for the interesting letters you, get out to all of us.

Signed

Dotty (Bechtoldt) Vieser

The bridge named for “ MR . TRANSPORTATION “ is now the Ellis Vieser Memorial Bridge Route 9 bridge spanning the Raritan River between South Amboy- Sayreville and Woodbridge. Vito-- This is something that all of Irvingtonians can be proud of. A boy from Irvington made it happen.

I WANT YOU TO KEEP THE E MAIL COMING.

These are some of the e mails I have received recently. mostly because of my faux pas.

Dear Vito: Sorry to hear you spend time in the Brick hospital. We are 15 minutes from there. We surely are glad you are at home and hope you are on the way to good health again. We were able to attend the reunion in Florida this year. It was great as it should be to see the “Old” gang. Memories of Irvington are always the best, that’s because we all had a good life in a great Town. There will be another Reunion on May 16th in Belmar, at the Barkley. I hope the NJ reunion will develop as the Fl. one has. This is the fourth year in NJ. We have been there twice.

Our last visit to Irvington took us back to Prospect Ave. It looks good. That is , it is not destroyed. Best of everything to you. Signed Claire and Kurt Armbruster

Dear Vito: Just received your mail and we are very sorry to hear of your illness. Into each life comes a setback; hopefully, you know the problem and make sure it doesn’t happen again. We are praying for you. My Computer crashed the end of March, buying one was easy- getting some one to install it was not. I was not born in the Computer age, so it is like teaching an old dog “new tricks” Just want to know we care about you. May God Bless You. Signed: Jinny & Mickey Weiner
From the Sunny Sea Isle Shores

Hi Vito: Hope you are feeling better. You have been in our prayers. You mentioned in your last Newsletter about of us sing “ On the Road to Mandalay “ in assembly. There was another song that we sang. It was “Look for the Silver Lining”. Did you sing that when you were in school? Of course, that was along with the “Fight Boys for Irvington”, “Fight Boys, Fight Boys, Fight for dear old Irvington” and while we were in high school, the newest fight song was “Go Campers Go”. Oh! What special memories they are. Signed. Joan & Monty Santoriello

Good Evening Vito: A blessed Holy week to you. Just a note to you and your readers--- Hopefully will be back in the hunt in the fall of 2003. Big changes in the UNL athletic department. Spring ball seems to going well, right now. New coaches and a closed forum for a while will have the most Nebraskans wondering what the Big Red will be like next season. They are promising all husker fans a few surprises.

I am all excited about the baseball season, I have my Cubs tickets all ready for my annual trip to Chicago. Dusty Baker has them playing at a respectable level at this time. I hope it continues. Well, that’s all right now from Nebraska. Signed –
Father Wayne ‘69

Hey so much for Aprils Fools Day.- not a fun joke and I am sorry to hear you were having health problems. I hope you are back on the right road.—take your vitamins, have lots of chicken soap and whatever it takes because I am looking forward to saying “Hi” at the Belmar Reunion, which I think I heard you were planning to attend??? I will be bringing Myrtle Hodapp from Springfield, and picking up Emie Kiss in Westfield and hoping for a good day. So---Feel Better!!!

Signed Ruth Bonner Jan 44

Sorry Vito to learn that you have been under the weather. Glad you are home now and on the mend. We all have things like this popping up these days. It's where we're at!! Take care and stay well,

Signed Betty Schleer Steffan

Got a lovely note from a Harriet Weber Kessler '33 now living in Tucson, Arizona. Formerly her father had the Weber Baking Co. in Irvington for many years, Harriet longing to hear from people from Irvington ask many questions, some about me, such as when did I graduated Chancellor Ave school, where did I live when I went to Chancellor?, at 52 Naden Ave. All my children, twin girls and a boy, all went to Chancellor, at that time we were living at 69 Prospect Ave . She, Harriet, also worked in the Pru after graduation, so did my Lillian, At that time it was one of the Pru, regulations that if you married, you had to quit. I know my Lillian was counting the days when she was to get married so she could tell her Supervisor that she was going to get married and glad to leave the Pru. Boy! How things have changed, the Pru would be glad to have some of these Ladies back working for them instead of what they have. However at that time, a salary, plus five lunches a week plus Supper, if you worked overtime, was a very reasonable salary in those days. 1936-- 1940 People were thankful to have Jobs.

Harriet: I hope I have answered some of your questions and I wish you the best of Health in our remaining years.

Daddy

Got y0ur Newsletter #76 today and wanted you to know I enjoyed it. I thought it was great that you started it with me and Barb's April Fools Day joke. Also, I find it hard to believe that our “ baby “ brother, Bill is turning 56 years old. But his name on the birthday list is correct, bet he will be upset with that!!!

I like the idea of adding Irvington news to this publication. I reacted to your blurb about Irvington's ban on using cell phone while driving, of course you have told me many times already. As I am talking to you from my cell phone while driving to work each morning. I do not what I will do if California enacts that ban but I do not see how they can as that is standard procedure for so many of us, cell phone driving.

Also, noted the clip about the Irvington schools and their budget struggles. As you know, California schools are at a crisis level with their funds and for me, who works in a school, my job is again on the line. I lived through layoffs for the current school year and I think I will survive it again for the upcoming year. Our situation is so severe it is hard to tell how many jobs there will be in the future. Keep your fingers crossed for me.

Thanks too for the photo of Irvington's Mayor speaking at my old church, St. Paul's. That was where I was confirmed and married. It was not built yet when Barb and I were baptized. Guess that took place at St. Leo's, you would remember that ceremony better than me. Next time I am back in N. J. and we take another Irvington tour, let's make sure we drive passed them church, I hope it is still so pretty.

Love you.

Beverlee Miele Hibbs

Class of 59

Vito . >>> I have to tell you something about this young Lady. She went to San Francisco in 1963 after a good job at AT&T, was promised a job at Pacific Tel & Tel, got the job. Came home to get married (at Dads expense) in 1964 was happily married when after a visit by Lillian and myself her husband suddenly died of a Heart attack and we had to return to his funeral. Between visits, I do recall seeing the #11 Super Bowl, John Madden at that time was the Coach of Oakland, and they defeated Minnesota, we were all rooting for Minnsrsota.

Between off and on visits by Lillian and myself and her visits to us this young Lady has turned out to be a wonderful child to us and I am thankful to her for calling her Mother every Sat. at 11Am to chit chat and since her Mother's demise and the present cell phone, I am thankful that she calls me every morning at 10:45 AM to see how I am feeling. I Love you Honey.

Some more email:

Vito By now you must have received dozens of "Get Well" emails and I am adding mine to the list. I hope this message find you feeling better... I know just being home again makes a big difference... and that you stay better for a long time.

Signed

Roy Madsen

Hi Vito:

So sorry to hear you have been in the hospital & hope you are on the mend I wondered since I have not heard from you on the e-mail since you were snowed in. in February during the big storm. Please take care of your self and stay well now that you are home.

Sincerely

Joan Jennings & Marty Santoriello

Hi Vito:

Always look forward to receiving your newsletter. It's the best piece of mail I get (other than someone sending a surprise check ... very few and far between } Wanted to remind you that my address has changed. Carol and I have moved to Sebring, Florida a year ago. Our new address is: 3871 Enchanted Oaks Lane, Sebring Fl. 33875

If ever there were a winter to be out of New Jersey it certainly was this past one. We had a cold winter here in Florida but just knowing we did not have to shovel snow was a blessing. Can I please get my birthday in there with the others... it's June 1 1929. Can't believe so many years have passed and hope there are many more to come.

I often think of the great times we had in the early 40's when the Sacred Heart Gold Stars ran their yearly dances at the Polish home on 16th Avenue. I would like to know how many remember those good times and also the Gold Stars Sunday football games at good ole Olympic Park Field. Still seems like yesterday to me. Looking forward to number 77. Good Health to Joe Polewka'46

I have many more e-mails but I do not room to print them. Please forgive me if I have not included your messages but write again and I will give you space. Thank you . Again I am sorry. VITO

If I add more pages it cost me more for postage, and that I cannot afford. By the way I have included a self addressed envelope for you folks to send in your checks. It is June and Dues are due. If you can afford it, those of you who send in more than the usual, it helps pay for those who cannot afford it. Your financial support is appreciated. VITO .

P.S. Forgive me, I do not have room for the HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOYS FOR JULY AND AUGUST. Again please forgive me. VITO You know who your buddies are. Please send them a card. If your buddies don't send you a card, We wish you all born in July & Aug. HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

