

Meet the South Jersey Movers & Shakers: Carlo Capuano



This fall, we asked locals to nominate South Jersey's biggest Movers & Shakers. With dozens of amazing stories, our accomplished judges had their work cut out for them when it came to narrowing down the Top 10 Movers & Shakers of 2014!

With the official results in, we're going to be taking a closer look at each winner and sharing their incredible stories.

Meet a young restaurateur, a 24 years old Saint Joseph's University Food Marketing graduate, who is helping to take his family business ot the next level- Carlo Capuano of Carlucci's Family of Restaurants.

SoJo Happening: What motivates you every morning?

Carlo Capuano: I always strive to be a better person then I was the day before. My wife and daughter motivate me to always do better and to make sure I can always give them everything they want and need. My family business motivates me to keep the business alive and well and to always keep up with our family traditions.

SoJo Happening: What would you say is your idea of a perfect day?

Carlo Capuano: A perfect day is spent with my wife and daughter going out to eat and try new places.

SoJo Happening: Who inspires you?

Carlo Capuano: My father inspires me to be the best father and person I can possibly be. He came to this country when he was only 16 years old and built a successful business while being there for myself, my mother and sister. He has taught me what it takes to make it in this business and to always work hard but leave time for family.

SoJo Happening: How did you decide to go into your business/profession?

Carlo Capuano: I decided to go into this business because I wanted to keep the family business alive. I grew up working in the various restaurants we have and I always wanted to be apart of the business.

SoJo Happening: Which achievement are you most proud of?

Carlo Capuano: I am most proud of being a father to my beautiful daughter Francesca. She gives me the strength to get through the toughest days at work because I get to go home and walk in to a smiling girl. Even after a long day at work makes me get up and dance in the room to her favorite songs.

SoJo Happening: What has been the biggest challenge you've had to overcome?

Carlo Capuano: The biggest challenge I had to overcome was when my daughter was born she was born with one kidney. About 6 months after she was born she had a really high fever and we had to rush her to CHOP in Philadelphia. She ended up having an UTI and about one month later had to have surgery on her one kidney. Everything went fantastic and the great doctors of CHOP did a wonderful job. But as first time parents it was extremely tough on myself and my wife to see our little daughter go through such a surgery. But it made our family stronger and showed us how strong of a baby girl we have.

SoJo Happening: What is the biggest accomplishment that you'd like to achieve over the next 5 years?

Carlo Capuano: The biggest accomplishment I would like to achieve in the next 5 years is to make Carlucci's Waterfront one of the premier wedding venues in New Jersey. We are in the process of remodeling and going to add a second floor to accommodate 400 people. With the beautiful waterfront view we have we hope to make Carlucci's Waterfront a premier wedding/banquet venue.

SoJo Happening: How do you think your friends & coworkers would describe you?

Carlo Capuano: I believe my friends and coworkers describe me as honest, loyal and hardworking.

SoJo Happening: Where's your favorite place to go in Camden County?

Carlo Capuano: Camden County is Susquehanna Bank Center or Adventure Aquarium. Me and my wife love music and have seen numerous concerts over the years, and we bring my daughter to the Aquarium because she loves animals. Also we love trying the various restaurants in South Jersey.

SoJo Happening: If you could go back in time and talk to yourself ten years ago, what advice would you give?

Carlo Capuano: The advice I would give myself 10 years ago would be to enjoy the moment and stop looking ahead at what is to come. Just enjoy being young and having zero responsibilities.