



Italian American Heritage Club Of Hunterdon County

KEEPING OUR *Pride*, CELEBRATING OUR *Culture*, REMEMBERING OUR *Past*

October, 2005: Teresa D'Errico of Colavita, USA

Teresa D'Errico will discuss the benefits of the Mediterranean diet and the role of extra-virgin olive oil.

Teresa grew up in southeastern Italy and spent many afternoons as a child in her family's olive groves in Monteverde, an ancient town at the edge of the Apennine Mountains bordering Campania, Puglia, and Basilicata.

At the age of 13, D'Errico moved to the U.S. with her family, graduated at the top of her high school class, earned a bachelor of arts in political science from Rutgers University, and spent much of her career in marketing at E.F. Hutton, a former financial services company on Wall Street.

D'Errico's passion for Italian culture led her back to the olive groves of Italy in 1984, when she joined Colavita USA. At the time, Colavita was introducing Italian extra-virgin olive oil into the U.S. – a virtually non-existent market until Colavita emerged on the scene. Colavita is now the No. 1 extra-virgin olive oil importer in the U.S., and continues to lead the market with extra virgin



Teresa D'Errico speaks at the Italian American Heritage Club Dinner Meeting in Flemington on October 18, 2005.

olive oils from different regions of Italy.

At Colavita, D'Errico's career has spanned all aspects of Italian specialty food sales, distribution, importing, customer service and promotions, both in the U.S. and in Italy. Cooking schools often call on D'Errico to share her expertise on olive oil and Italian cuisine, including the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park, N.Y. and Central Market in Austin and Houston, Texas.

pany's popular Lidia's pasta sauce product line, produced by restaurateur, TV host, and cookbook author, Lidia Bastianich.

D'Errico is active in her community and in women's causes. She is president of the Older Women's League of Central New Jersey; served on the Union County Commission on the Status of Women; and was a member of the Elizabeth Fair Rental Housing Board for 20 years (a volunteer mayoral appointment, where she served several terms as chairwoman of the board). D'Errico is also a member of the National Organization of Italian American Women based in New York and gives private classes in Italian home-cooking and entertaining from her home in New Jersey.

In addition to her role as director of client services at Colavita, D'Errico oversees the sales and promotions for the com-

