

Biographical Press Release - Abridged

**HON. CARMEN B. CABELL
Consul to Mongolia and Foreign Missions Head of Post**

Consul Cabell is an entrepreneur and businessman, having built successful businesses in such diverse fields as construction, insurance, security, hospitality, and international trade. He is also a philanthropist and diplomat who has dedicated many years and resources to the benefit of his community - and to the enhancement of the relationship of his country with other countries around the world.

In addition to a well noted and acclaimed career in the hospitality industry, Consul Cabell has utilized his talents to establish and operate: a commercial insurance and surety brokerage firm; a corporate security business; a commercial construction and program management group; and a full service business consulting company.

His philanthropic activities over the past 30 years have garnered him numerous accolades and awards including: *National Humanitarian of the Year 1996*; Founding Member of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey; Foundation Board Member, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital; and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from the United States Congress.

More recently, Consul Cabell has focused his efforts on diplomatic and international business relations. In addition to his appointment as Consul to Mongolia, he was appointed Co-Chair of the Peace and Conflict Resolution Board of the International Services Division for the Rotary-United Nations Joint Initiative, and to the United Nations Public Private Alliance for Rural Development for the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

(this is an abridged version of the complete biographical publication which is available upon request.)



Seated at table founder & owner Carmen Cabell at one of his several world class restaurants La Fontana (which was designed to resemble a circa 1930s Roman restaurant). He is well noted for his philanthropy many years of foreign diplomatic service and his diverse business interests. Cabell had a long standing relationship with Mother Teresa, founder of the Missionaries of Charity, and her work around the world.

AWARDS, ACCOLADES & AFFILIATIONS

- Consul to Mongolia in the United States, Foreign Missions Head of Post
- Recipient of Meritorious Awards and Honorarium from the Government of Mongolia
- Director – The Lakeview School, a non-profit educational facility for children with Cerebral Palsy
- Foundation Board Member – Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
- Founder and Chairman of the Board – The Angel Tree Foundation, a non-profit charity to benefit children
- Building Committee – New Jersey Specialty Acute Care Children's Hospital
- National Humanitarian of the Year 1996– Italian Tribune News
- Founding Member – The Cancer Institute of New Jersey
- New Jersey Representative – Republican Presidential Roundtable, 1998
- Committee Member – United Nations Public Private Alliance for Rural Development for the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Co-Chair – Peace and Conflict Resolution Board of the International Services Division, Rotary – United Nations Joint Initiative
- Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition – United States Congress
- Leadership Excellence Award – Association of the United States Army
- Special Senate Resolution – New Jersey Senate
- Resolution of Recognition – Board of Chosen Freeholders, Essex County, NJ
- Resolution of Commendation – Newark Municipal Council, City of Newark, NJ
- Host Committee Representative – New York/New Jersey World Cup USA, 1994
- International Judge – Mrs. America International Beauty and Talent Pageant
- Co-Chairman - New Jersey Restaurant Association, State Political Action Committee

Featured in the Following Publications:

Entrepreneur Magazine: 51 American Success Stories (Cover Story)

Corporate New Jersey: Food for Thought (Cover Story)

Forbes Newspapers, New Jersey: Revved at Full Speed (Cover Story)

Star-Ledger of New Jersey: Numerous citations

News Tribune: Numerous citations

Home News & Tribune: Various citations

New York Times

Zagat Survey

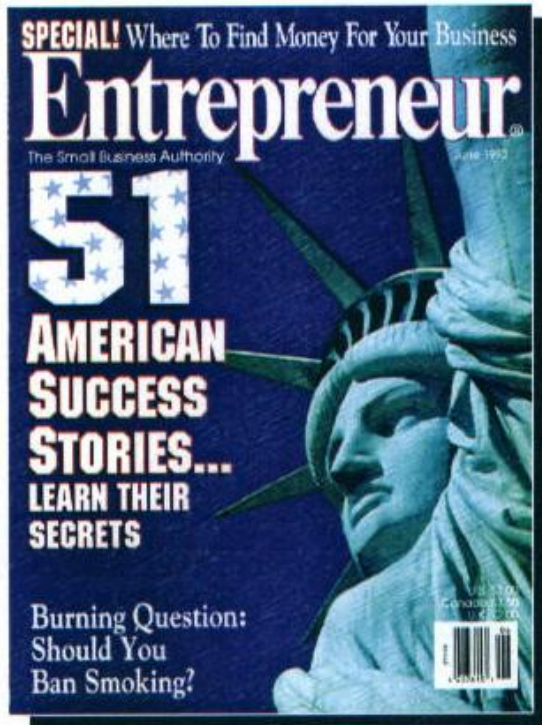
Wine Spectator

New Jersey Magazine

Asbury Park Press

Courier-News

Mobile Travel Guide



COVER STORY

ENTREPRENEURS ACROSS AMERICA

Chosen by Entrepreneur Magazine
as one of the top American success
stories in the Country.

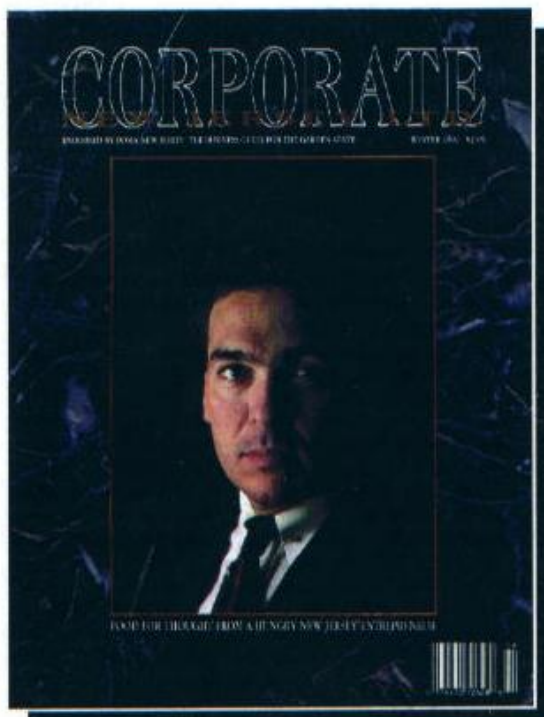
By Stephanie Barlow

"People may assume it's beginner's luck if you own one successful restaurant. If you start a second, you get their attention. But if you open a third says Carmen Cabell, 'People have to recognize that you've succeeded not by accident but by a well-designed plan.'"

"For Cabell, things are definitely going according to plan. About five years ago, he opened New Brunswick based La Fontana, an aristocratic Italian restaurant, to mass acclaim. Since then he's launched Al dente, an informal pasta hose, and Feast of San Gennaro, a pizza place."

"Today, Cabell is also raising funds for disabled children and starting a wholesale Italian food line. When people marvel at this renaissance entrepreneur's success and his young age, he replies, 'I haven't even started yet!'"

-Entrepreneur Magazine June, 1993



Staying Hungry

One New Jersey Restaurateur
Whose Appetite For Ideas
Will Never Be Satisfied.

By Irwin Chusid

"This New Jersey born-and raised entrepreneur owns three unique, critically-acclaimed Italian restaurants: La Fontana (New Brunswick), Al Dente (Piscataway) and Feast of San Gennaro (Franklin Park.)"

"...A great factor in his success was a natural curiosity...he made business his business: he asked questions, accepted challenging new tasks, and didn't mind getting his hands dirty."

"He sought to create a format that would brook no compromise, that would address the void left by the lackadaisical approach of most restaurants in the mainstream."

"He also has high standards regarding the moral imperative of entrepreneurs. 'We must have a professional commitment to provide the best for those who use our services, for the company, our employees, and ourselves'."


"...For Cabell, that giving is directed to handicapped and retarded children. A year ago, his Angeltree Foundation was granted legal foundation status by the state of New Jersey."

It is ultimately ironic that this successful restaurateur's motto should be: 'Stay hungry. Don't settle.'"

-Corporate New Jersey LTD, Winter, 1991

Vol. 139 Washington, Wednesday, March 10, 1993 No. 29

Congressional Record



United States
of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF 103rd CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Carmen Cabell: Self-made success story gives back to community.

Hon. Frank Pallone, Jr.
of New Jersey in the
House of Representatives

Wednesday, March 10 1993

"This phenomenally successful restaurateur became a go-getter in the classic sense, a self-made businessman whose hard work and creativity have led to the creation of three highly successful restaurants."

"Mr. Cabell's success has been based largely on a good old fashion work ethic. The formula for his success: relentless work."

"What truly sets Carmen Cabell apart are his efforts to give something back to the community. He has created the Angel Tree Foundation which has been granted legal foundation status by the State of New Jersey.

But those of us who know Carmine Cabell recognize that this type of dedication is right in character. It is an honor and privilege to pay tribute to this fine man and good friend, and to share some of his achievements with my colleagues in this House and in the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD."


Vol. 2, No. 6 February 19, 1992

Forbes Publication

Guide

Dining delight
see inside

MIDDLESEX COUNTY



Whoosh! Look at Him go! Carmen Cabell, owner of three Central New Jersey restaurants, with engine revved at full speed.

"I like realistic, exacting themes," he says.

Philanthropist/Restaurateur 'revved at full speed'

By Roz Gerken

..."Energetic and dynamic, he lives, breathes and sleeps work." "More Startling than his dedication, however is his philosophy of business."

"There's too much complacency and conformity in business. To overcome complacency, each of Mr. Cabell's restaurants are unique."

"Mr. Cabell first went into business in his early 20's. 'I like introducing people to the finer things...but I want to do it with dignity and gentility and without compromising anyone.' The restaurateur is known for his high standards."

"I like realistic exacting themes," he says. "His fondness for children led him to establish the Angel Tree Foundation, which focuses on helping handicapped and retarded children."

"Great minds think alike. Andrew Carnegie, captain of industry and philanthropist, left his mark in Middlesex County with an endowment for the New Brunswick Public Library. His Business descendant, Carmine Cabell, captain of cuisine and philanthropist, is leaving his mark not only in Middlesex County but also in the State of New Jersey - with his restaurants and his philanthropy."



Carmine Cabell, owner of La Fontana, deliver Christmas cards to Lauren Olymyk, Tommy Moss and his sister Sarah at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital on Christmas Eve.



Carmine Cabell discusses proposed plans for the new children's hospital with Dr. Sun, Director of Neonatal Care at United Children's Hospital and a director of Cabell's Angeltree Foundation.



Carmine Cabell, owner of La Fontana restaurant, at right, presents a plaque to Patrick Kennedy, who visited New Brunswick Monday night to raise funds for his U.S. congressional campaign.

THE NEWS Tribune

MARCH 30, 1994 THE NEWSPAPER FOR MIDDLESEX, MONMOUTH, AND UNION COUNTIES

Donated soups used to help abused women, children

Carmine Cabell, owner of La Fontana in New Brunswick said he participated in the soup kitchen to help expose a problem that he believes is often hidden....The center provides shelter to women and children who are victims of domestic violence."

"Carmine Cabell played an instrumental role in founding and co-ordinatng the fundraiser from its inception last year... According to Women Aware Executive Director Jackie Marich the soup kitchen raised \$20,000 last night...

To see the birth of something like this and watch it grow and develop is just an amazing feeling,' Cabell says. "

Star-Ledger

March 25, 1992 The Newspaper for New Jersey

It's Easy to Feel Like Royalty at this attractive eatery.

"At a tender age, restaurateur-philanthropist Carmen Cabell has built an exciting Italian dining empire in Middlesex county, New Jersey. The three successful restaurants he has created range from chic and moderately expensive to funky and inexpensive."

"All share the Cabell trademark: great food and impeccable service. A thoughtful, highly articulate man and no stranger to children's causes, he is one of the state's great restaurant philanthropists and humanitarian."

Star-Ledger

September 28, 1993 The Newspaper for New Jersey

Kennedy is his name Funds raised for Patrick's race

By Christina Johnson

"The political spotlight was directed on a New Brunswick restaurant last night during a campaign fundraiser for Patrick Kennedy."

..."big names from all circles were in attendance at this \$1000 a plate fundraiser for his U.S. congressional campaign at La Fontana restaurant in New Brunswick."

"Some eyebrows were raised when people first heard that 50,000 New Jersey Democratic dollars were being donated."

"Carmine Cabell founder and owner of La Fontana, and the event chairman said he was delighted to be able to host the event."



THE HOME NEWS & TRIBUNE

February 19, 1995 Peter Genovese/Local Report

He's Truly a Man With a Mission

"Carmen Cabell was driving through Plainfield one hot summer day when he saw something unusual. Nuns. Walking down the road with no apparent destination."

... "So began his relationship with Mother Teresa, the Roman Catholic nun and founder of the Missionaries of Charity who received the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize for her work with the poor."

"Most people would consider it the thrill of a lifetime to meet her once, however briefly. Cabell, owner of La Fontana restaurant in New Brunswick, has met her nearly 20 times, in private."

"There's more. Every one of the 600 or so Missionaries of Charity homes around the world has a cherubim, a childlike angel, in its chapel. Cabell provided them."

"There was a bond," he says of the nuns, "the moment I met them."

Angels already meant something special to him. Several years earlier, he had formed the Angel Tree Foundation, which helps handicapped children.

Star-Ledger

March 17, 1993 The Newspaper for New Jersey

A bubbly benefit aids new children's hospital

by R. Edelman, S. M. Klein

"One of the world's most prestigious champagne-making companies kicked off its 250th anniversary last night with an elegant black-tie celebration at La Fontana restaurant on Albany Street."

... "Proceeds from the gala will benefit the New Jersey Speciality Acute Care Children's Hospital."

"The dignitaries included Rep. Frank Pallone, Senators John Lynch, Jack Sinagra, Joseph Kyrillos and state Senate President Donald DiFrancesco; Charlie Marcianti, state president AFL CIO, and Frank Wade, state director New Jersey Building Trades, among a cast of many, including the assistant to former President Nixon."

"We all think that La Fontana is one of the leading special occasion restaurants in New Jersey, and possibly the entire U.S. So, we felt this was definitely where we wanted to have our big event."

"Carmen Cabell is well-known for his untiring work on behalf of children's causes."

Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County and New Jersey

Carmen Cabell Honored

"Entrepreneur and philanthropist Carmine Cabell first learned about the students of the Lakeview School at the gala opening of Nordstrom." ... "Mr. Cabell was greatly moved. He knew he had to do something to help these special children"

... "The place, the critically acclaimed restaurant, La Fontana - the event, 'Un Bel Di' - the special guest, none other than Academy Award winner Joe Pesci."

"Through Mr. Cabell's generosity, 100% of the ticket sales proceeds were turned over to the Lakeview Building Fund."

"For many years, I've been impressed with Mr. Cabell's philanthropic activities, especially his concern for children with disabilities", said Board President Jack Lenihan. "Mr. Cabell has translated his concern into action. This extravagant afternoon was his idea and he personally saw to it that every guest was royally treated."

-May 1992



Ten Thousand Dollar check donated to Specialty Acute Care Children's Hospital. Pictured are: John Lynch, Senate Minority Leader; Jack Sinagra, State Senator; John Matuska, President and Chief Executive of St. Peter's Medical Center; Harvey Holzberg, President and Chief Executive of Robert Wood Johnson Hospital; and Carmen Cabell, Owner of La Fontana Restaurant.



Gala Dinner with Oscar Winner Joe Pesci at La Fontana Draws a Sell out Crowd. Proceeds benefit Cerebral Palsy Association.

*Best Wishes
Carmine Cabell*



**CONGRESSMAN
FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

CARMEN CABELL • HUMANITARIAN
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION

**JOSEPH C. SPICUZZO
CHAIRMAN**

Best Wishes to
CARMEN CABELL
from
NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO

A Great Citizen
Congratulations
on this
Prestigious Honor!
**YOUR FRIEND,
SENATOR
JOE KYRILLOS**

Congratulations
MIDDLESEX COUNTY'S OWN

*Best Wishes
Carmine Cabell
In recognition of
dedicated service to
the community*
**Senator
John Lynch**



HUMANITARIAN Carmine Cabell, noted restaurateur, accepts the Columbus Bust Award from U.S. Senator Bob Torricelli.

*To a True
Humanitarian
and Friend*
**Senate Majority Leader
John O. Bennett**

*Congratulations
& Best
Wishes*
**Senator
Jack Sinagra**

*"Congratulations to
Carmine Cabell
winner of the
1996
Christopher Columbus
Humanitarian Award."*
*With appreciation for your commitment
to the City of New Brunswick*
**Jim Cahill
Mayor**

**NEW JERSEY
STATE BUILDING
AND CONSTRUCTION
TRADES COUNCIL
AFL-CIO**
*Best Wishes,
Carmine*

Congratulations
to
CARMINE CABELL
on this
well deserved honor.



(908) 235 (CINJ)
Robert E. Campbell
Chairman
William N. Hait, M.D., Ph.D.
Director



*Certificate of Special
Congressional Recognition*

Presented to

Carmine Cabell

*in recognition of outstanding and invaluable
service to the community.*

October 13, 1996

DATE

Frank Pallone, Jr.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE

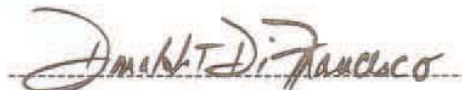
STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

SENATE RESOLUTION


By Senator KYRILLOS

- WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of New Jersey is pleased to honor Carmine B. Cabell, a distinguished member of the Garden State community and the recipient of the Christopher Columbus Humanitarian Award for 1996; and,
- WHEREAS, Carmine B. Cabell will receive this prestigious accolade at the Twenty-Sixth Annual Columbus Day Awards Banquet, which is sponsored by the *Italian Tribune News* and which will be held on October 11, 1996; and,
- WHEREAS, The Christopher Columbus Humanitarian Award is bestowed upon Carmine B. Cabell in recognition of his remarkable record of service and commitment to others; and,
- WHEREAS, Carmine B. Cabell, a highly successful businessman, is the founder of the AngelTree Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to helping children with special needs; and,
- WHEREAS, He has also commissioned and provided cherubim for more than six hundred Missionaries of Charity homes; and,
- WHEREAS, In addition, he is a member of the Boards of Directors of a number of important organizations, including Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, the International Community of Mayors, Cerebral Palsy of Middlesex County, the New Jersey Restaurant Association, and March of Dimes of New Jersey, and he has selflessly assisted the United Children's Hospital of Newark, the Women & Children's Shelter of Middlesex County, and the Consolata Order; and,
- WHEREAS, Carmine B. Cabell's energetic style of leadership and abiding sense of commitment have characterized his service to these worthwhile organizations and endeavors; and,
- WHEREAS, By demonstrating his devotion to serving others, Carmine B. Cabell has earned the respect and admiration of all who know him; and,
- WHEREAS, It is altogether proper and fitting for this House to acknowledge and to salute Carmine B. Cabell as an individual of outstanding character and exceptional determination; now, therefore,
- Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*
- That this House hereby honors and congratulates Carmine B. Cabell, pays tribute to his meritorious record of service, leadership, and commitment, and extends best wishes for his continued success in all future endeavors; and,
- Be It Further Resolved,* That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the President and attested by the Secretary, be transmitted to Carmine B. Cabell.




President of the Senate

Attest:


Secretary of the Senate

Italian **TRIBUNE** News

CIRCULATED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

Celebrating 65 Years of Publication

PRINTED IN ENGLISH • PRICE 50 CENTS

Volume 65, No. 41

ACE ALAGNA PUBLICATION

Thursday, October 10, 1996

26th Annual Columbus Day Parade

**at 26th Columbus Gala
300,000 Hail Bob Dole
and Pat Cooper at Parade**

Carmen Cabell Named 'Humanitarian' for Columbus Day Celebration

Carmen B. Cabell, born and raised in New Jersey, has been selected as the 1996 Columbus Day Humanitarian of the Year, announced Ace Alagna, Executive Director of the Columbus Day Celebration.

Mr. Cabell has achieved enormous success with his business ventures, and his interests continue to grow and diversify from beginnings in the hospitality industry to include businesses in the fields of health care, real estate and finance. Mr. Cabell appeared on the cover of Corporate New Jersey Limited and was named by Entrepreneur magazine as one of the "51 American Success Stories." His business strategy lectures at Rutgers University were also very well received.

He owns three critically acclaimed restaurants, specializing in fine Italian cuisine, the aristocratic *La Fontana* in New Brunswick, reminiscent of an elegant 19th century hotel. Al Dente, best described as a

pasta house, retains a high quality of Italian food in a less formal atmosphere. *The Feast of San Gennaro*, patterned after New York's Little Italy, is a part pizza shop and part Italian fast food.

His will to succeed, coupled with careful planning and foresight, has been the driving force behind his restaurant's success. More importantly, his ambition has been focused on philanthropic and missionary activities. Curirectors of no less than ten companies and organizations, including the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, the International Community of Mayors, Cerebral Palsy of Middlesex County, the New Jersey Restaurant Association and the March of Dimes of New Jersey.

Mr. Cabell has participated in countless political and fundraising campaigns and closely affiliated with the United Children's Hospital of Newark. In addition, his efforts were fundamental in organizing and

spear-heading the first fundraising program for the Women and Children's Shelter of Middlesex County.

Of all the organizations to which he dedicates his time and efforts, one remains particularly close to his heart. In 1988, Mr. Cabell created the Angel Tree Foundation - a charitable organization dedicated to handicapped children. Mr. Cabell and his organization visit, comfort and bring gifts to handicapped children at hospitals such as Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, St. Peter's Medical Center and the Children's Hospital in Newark.

Mr. Cabell has long been a friend and confidant of Mother Teresa, the famous Roman Catholic nun, founder of the Missionaries of Charity and recipient of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize. Every one of the more than 600 Missionaries of Charity homes around the world has been adorned with a cheru-



**CARMEN B. CABELL
HUMANITARIAN**

bim. All of these homes has the child-like angel in its chapel, provided by Mr. Cabell.

His relationship with Mother Teresa inspired him to offer these angels to homes for the poor. Angels have been important to Mr. Cabell and he incorporates them into much of his charitable work, both personally and through his organization.

Congressional Record



United States
of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 103^d CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—

**CARMINE CABELL: SELF-MADE
SUCCESS STORY GIVES BACK TO
COMMUNITY**

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1993

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, March 14, 1993, La Fontana Ristorante in New Brunswick, NJ, will be the scene for the Premier Champagne Gala in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Moet & Chandon, considered France's most illustrious and prestigious champagne distillery. The proceeds from this gala event will benefit New Jersey's Specialty Arise Care Children's Hospital.

Much of the credit for organizing Sunday's event belongs to the owner of La Fontana, Mr. Carmine Cabell. This phenomenally successful 30-year-old restaurateur was recently profiled in *Corporate New Jersey* magazine. Born and raised in New Jersey, Mr. Cabell was forced by the difficult circumstances of his childhood to become a go-getter in the classic sense, a self-made businessman whose hard work and creativity have led to the creation of three highly successful restaurants. In addition to La Fontana, Mr. Cabell also owns Al Dente in Piscataway, NJ, and the Feast of San Gennaro in Franklin Park, NJ.

From his high school days, when he worked all night and attended school during the day, through the years when he put himself through college, carrying a full academic load while working 50- to 60-hour weeks, Mr. Cabell's success has been based largely on a good old-fashioned work ethic. After school, Mr. Cabell bought a neighborhood bar with his savings and converted it into a tuxedo-service Italian restaurant. Eventually, he developed a 10-year plan, a grand scheme to create a formal restaurant, a more casual eatery, and a fast food outlet. The formula for his success: relentless work. The 90- to 100-hour workweeks are the norm, and a vacation is out of the question.

What truly sets Carmine Cabell apart is his efforts to give something back to the community. He has created the Angelina Foundation, which has been granted legal foundation status by the State of New Jersey. The current goal of Angelina is to raise funds for the State-sanctioned Children's Hospital in Newark, where the focus will be on prenatal and neonatal medical care and research. This is obviously a most generous and praiseworthy goal, something that would be considered remarkable by most of us. But those of us who know Carmine Cabell recognize that this type of dedication is right in character. It is an honor and a privilege to pay tribute to this fine man and good friend, and to share some of his achievements with my colleagues in this House and in the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SECOND CLASS NEWSPAPER

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(USPS 087-390)

THE SUNDAY HOME NEWS

**Peter
Genovese**
Passing By



He's truly a man with a mission

Carmine Cabell was driving through Plainfield one hot summer day when he saw something unusual. Nuns. Walking down the road with no apparent destination.

He had seen plenty of nuns in his time, but these, he could tell, were different. He pulled up alongside the two leading the odd procession.

"Do you want a ride?" he asked.

"No," one replied, smiling. "We're on a pilgrimage."

A year later, he received a mysterious telephone call from one of the nuns.

"Meet us at 3 o'clock in the morning," she said. "We can't tell you where we're going."

They ended up in the South Bronx, where Cabell met the most extraordinary person he knows.

"We sat there and held hands," he recalled. "The strength in her hands was overwhelming."

So began his relationship with Mother Teresa, the Roman Catholic nun and founder of the Missionaries of Charity who received the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize for her work with the poor.

Most people would consider it the thrill of a lifetime to meet her once, however briefly. Cabell, owner of La Fontana restaurant in New Brunswick, has met her nearly 20 times, in private.

There's more. Every one of the 600 or so Missionaries of Charity homes around the world has a cherubim, a childlike angel, in its chapel. Cabell provided them.

"There was a bond," he says of the nuns, "the moment I met them."

It is an unlikely bond — the former Hillsborough High School football player, now an impeccably attired restaurant owner, and the plainly-dressed nun who began her work in the slums of Calcutta.

"There's an energy about her that is overwhelming," he said. "You can't help but be consumed by that energy."

Cabell's reaction when she agreed to let him provide angels for her chapels?

"I said: 'Mother, are you sure this is all right? Don't you have to wait for news from the Vatican or something?'"

Angels already meant something special to him. Several years earlier, he had formed the Angel Tree Foundation, which helps handicapped children.

"If you're 30 years old and you become, say, paralyzed, it's terrible, but at least you've had 30 years," he said. "But if you've been tripped up at the beginning of the race..."

Cabell doesn't tell everyone about his association with Mother Teresa — this is the first time he has talked to a reporter — but it's clear she has had a great influence on him.

She once told him that of all her conversations with world leaders, the one she had with Castro was the most profound. When she asked him if she could open a home in Cuba, he told her it was unnecessary: there was no poverty in Cuba.

A year later, Castro gave her permission to open a home. Today, there are six.

Asked what he and Mother Teresa talk about, Cabell smiled.

"Social amenities are not the topic of conversation," he said. "It's not, 'Gee, Mother, how about those Mets?'"

"The conversation is 'very mission-oriented,'" he said, but that doesn't mean Mother Teresa lacks a sense of humor.

"She's very witty," he said. "It's not that somber reverence everyone expects. I probably laugh more with (the sisters) than anyone."

"They never pass judgment," he said. "They have taken a vow: to help the poorest of the poor. No conditions."

Nothing they or their founder do surprises him anymore. Several years ago, Cabell was in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, recuperating from an injury. The order's Mother Superior paid him a surprise visit.

"I said, 'How did you find out I was here?'" he recalled. "She said, 'You know we have ways of finding out.'"

Peter Genovese is a Home News staff writer. "Passing By" appears Sundays and Wednesdays.

Dining all'italiana in the U.S.A.

by Nancy Pawloski
Mangan

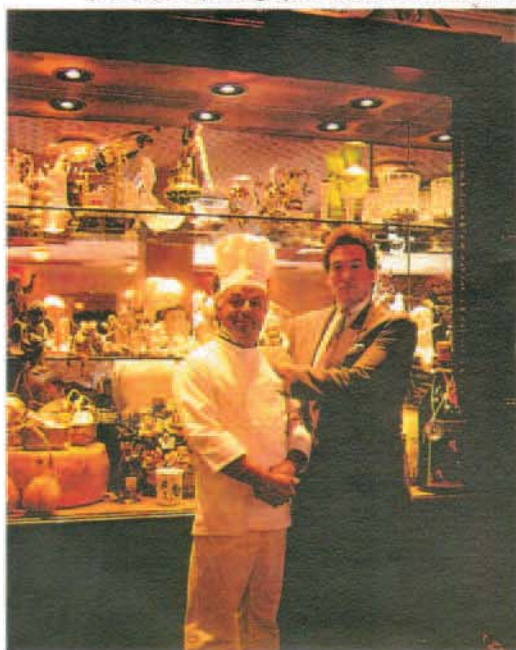
La Fontana in New Brunswick, NJ, represents a giant step forward in top-level Italian cuisine. The restaurant is operated by a veritable wizard of a restaurateur, Carmine Cabell, who at the age of 32, has already achieved several important successes in his career.

Born and reared in New Jersey, Cabell now owns three restaurants in the "Garden State:" Al Dente in Piscataway and the Feast of San Gennaro in Franklin Park, in addition to La Fontana.

Those successes did not come easily. Because of a family misfortune, Cabell was forced to work nights, initially as a bartender's assistant, to help support his family while he was going to school. However, he took every advantage of his position by asking innumerable questions and learning as much as he could about business and dealing with the public.

He went to the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, where he majored in economics. He also worked nights in a casino, waiting tables. After several years, he was forced to leave the uni-

Carmine Cabell, right, owner of La Fontana Restaurant, and master chef Sebastian Russo pose for the photographer inside the restaurant.



La Fontana 120 Albany New Brunswick, NJ

A view of the elegant dining room of La Fontana Restaurant.



versity without receiving his degree because of another family tragedy.

Cabell returned to New Jersey and invested the little money he had been able to save. He worked days in a trucking business operated by an uncle and waited tables and tended bar at nights. Today, Cabell still often works 90 or 100 hours a week in his restaurants to ensure that high standards are maintained.

In designing La Fontana, Cabell made sure that no detail was overlooked in creating a restaurant that offers Old World charm and twenties elegance. The chandelier and sconces, as well as the fountains, are from Italy, while the hand-painted silk wallpaper was custom-made in Belgium. The drapes and chairs are from France and the bar is from an elegant old Chicago hotel. Most of the furnishings are either custom-made or original European antiques.

Because the restaurant has an international clientele, the menu is printed in 13 different languages and the cuisine is intended to satisfy a wide variety of tastes. Its eclecticism is combined with classicism and an appropriate dash of

modernism. The cooking is overseen by master chef Sam Russo, who was trained in Rome and worked in a leading hotel on the French Riviera. He is ably supported by chef Oscar Romero.

The service is as impeccable as the cuisine. The Fontana has a staff of 38 and accommodates no more than 80 guests. As a result, each diner is assured full attention.

For all that La Fontana has to offer, the prices are reasonable. Entrees range from \$18 to a maximum of \$20, with only a few exceptions. Only the finest ingredients are used in the kitchen and the selection depends upon the season and the market.

Appetizers include such delectable dishes as *mozzarella fresca* (layers of mozzarella cheese, grilled eggplant, avocado and fresh sliced tomato on a roasted pepper purée) and *carpaccio di manzo* (thin slices of raw beef over a green herb sauce and garnished with palm hearts, parmesan, black olives and sun-dried tomatoes).

The pasta dishes are served as appetizers or first courses only and among those featured is *capellini al basilico* (angel-hair pasta with fresh