

Harrison street history on DVD

Elkhart's very own little Italy still resided on Harrison Street a generation ago. Members of the families who originally settled in the neighborhood have since outgrown the near east side of downtown and established themselves in other niches of the city and county. But the memories of music, church, Sunday visits from friends and the smell of tomato sauce and garlic in the street haven't faded

by: [Jodi Magallanes](#)

Friday, July 15, 2011

ELKHART - Elkhart's very own little Italy still resided on Harrison Street a generation ago.

Members of the families who originally settled in the neighborhood have since outgrown the near east side of downtown and established themselves in other niches of the city and county. But the memories of music, church, Sunday visits from friends and the smell of tomato sauce and garlic in the street haven't faded for the tradition-rich Elkhart Italians.

Over the last two years local videographer Larry App recorded 20 of them sharing their recollections of life on Harrison Street. Several video compilations of those interviews, with added still photos, are now available for purchase.

App said he hopes that with the videos, viewers will understand how the Italians endured hardship and assimilated into the American culture while maintaining their cultural traditions. The recordings paint a picture of neighbors who turned the area into a warm and welcoming enclave.

To view a trailer of the videos, visit www.StoriesRetold.com or the Stories Retold Facebook page. The DVDs can be purchased from the website for \$29.99 for the documentary, \$24.99 for a bonus DVD that includes a photographic walking tour of Harrison Street and \$14.99 each for five DVDs containing several interviews in their entirety. Packages and discounts are available.

For more information call App at 848-9284.