Twitter Thread by j2 Dumfounded ■

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@j2dumfounded

Today is a good day to start a thread about Mount Airy Casino Resort. It may take a while to cover all the territory.

Let’s start with some ancient history.



Even Mr. DeNaples priest, Father Joseph Sica, got into hot water over his ties to the Bufalino crime family. Tsk, tsk, Father Joey.

The Daily Item

Sica faces a single perjury count for allegedly lying to the grand jury about his ties to the late Russell Bufalino, an organized crime boss who died in the 1990s. Sica, whose lawyer was in the courtroom Monday, denies the charge.

“William D'Elia, 62, became the latest alleged American Mafia leader to turn government informant as he was sentenced Monday to nine years in prison for witness tampering and conspiracy to launder drug money.”

D’Elia was the head of the Bufalino crime family.

In 2009, Louis DeNaples was forced to sell his stake

“DeNaples relinquished control of the casino in 2009 to avoid prosecution on charges he lied to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board about his affiliations with organized crime figures when he applied for his gaming license.

Luckily DeNaples was able to sell his share to his daughter Lisa DeNaples, who operates the casino.

https://t.co/OpaA1KfxVQ

In 2012 the resort petitions the gaming board to allow two of Lisa’s siblings to join its board. They also ask that their dad Louis be allowed to remain its financial guarantor.

The Office of Enforcement Counsel disagreed.

https://t.co/tHonLyI6HF

Some six months later, the matter of Louis DeNaples lack of a gaming license being in conflict with his role as a guarantor was resolved gracefully, as he exited as a guarantor.

https://t.co/1CScG1fpoN

The Daily Item

Casino regulators wanted DeNaples to keep his license while he was the guarantor of the casino's loans. But an agreement with J.P. Morgan Chase to reduce that debt from $271 million to $165 million means DeNaples is no longer the guarantor.

Under the motions approved today, Louis DeNaples' principal license will be allowed to expire and his renewal application will be withdrawn. Gambling board officials said the changes were important to the viability of the casino, which opened in October 2007.

Lisa DeNaples did a bang up job of making improvements to the resort, landing a AAA Four Diamond Award, opening a Guy Fieri branded restaurant, and putting in a ginormous swimming pool. Sounds fun!

https://t.co/444Oi0Kz27

Still, Louis wasn't happy with the decision that prevented him from earning anything from the casino. He was barred from receiving any payments, including to businesses he owned that might provide services to Mount Airy. He lost his 2016 case.

Boohoo.

https://t.co/OpaA1KfxVQ

Also in 2012, Louis deNaples was forced to step down from his role as the chairman of First National Community Bancorp.



However, in 2013 the federal appeals court reversed the decision and DeNaples was allowed to remain on FNCB's board.

[I was today years old when I learned there is a Mafia Wiki.]

https://t.co/NedP5Mpdik



Talk about ancient history, Mafia Wiki!

“In 1978, DeNaples pleaded no contest to a conspiracy charge of defrauding the government of more than $500,000 in

contracts relating to the cleanup and recovery of the City of Scranton in the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes.”

In 1978, DeNaples pleaded no contest to a conspiracy charge of defrauding the government of more than $500,000 in contracts relating to the cleanup and recovery of the City of Scranton in the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes. Prosecutors claimed DeNaples plotted with three county employees to falsify records to obtain $525,000 in federal reimbursements. He was subsequently fined $10,000 and was placed on probation for three years. Four people, including Dave Osticco, the reputed underboss of the Bufalino crime family were convicted in 1982 of jury tampering in DeNaples fraud trial.

We'll want to remember that in 1978 DeNaples defrauded the government when we get to 2020, gentle readers.

But we still have a few gaps to fill before we arrive at the present day.

Because dear gentle readers, it is time to hold onto your hats for his 2013 book review of the Quiet Don that says Bufalino was involved in the Bay of Pigs, ordered the killing of Jimmy Hoffa, and, oh yeah, had DeNaples bribe Pennsylvania governor Rendell to change gambling laws.

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INQUIRER FILE PHOTO
Russell Bufalino (right), taken out of prison to appear, is questioned about organized crime at a 1982 hearing in Scranton. He was once considered the state's most powerful crime boss. The Quiet Don by Matt Birkbeck concludes he was one of the most powerful mobsters in the nation and ordered the hit on Jimmy Hoffa.

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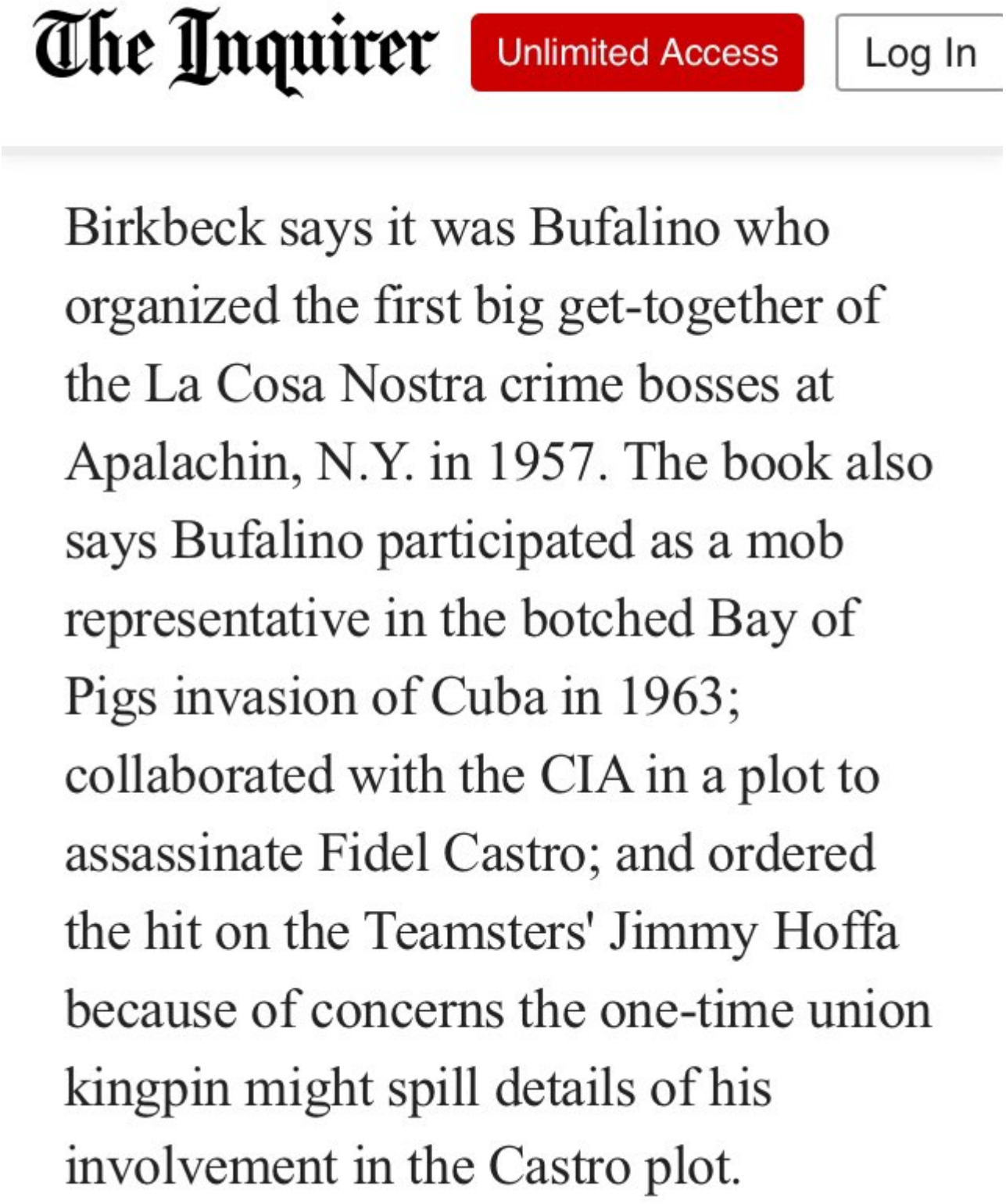
In "The Quiet Don," Matt Birkbeck weaves together the stories of two of the most powerful men to emerge from Pennsylvania in the late 20th century.

This is tangential to our DeNaples thread, yet noteworthy.

La Cosa Nostra founder Bufalino allegedly ordered the hit on Hoffa “because of concerns the one-time union kingpin might spill details of his involvement in the Castro plot.”

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https://t.co/c2z5V9aUdW



■

It helps contextualize this statement,

“DeNaples, Birkbeck alleges, was initially granted a casino license to operate a slots parlor in the Poconos after corralling business associates to donate $600,000 to Rendell's campaign coffers.”

Is bribe too harsh? Shall we use bundle?



Lest there be any confusion as to the credibility of Birkbeck’s reporting, we should observe he was sued for defamation by a murderer whose dad was DeNaples bestie.

This article ■

https://t.co/B0bA47yT1p

Now, this tale from the far-right American Spectator is an eyebrow raiser, saying DeNaples gives generously to the Catholic Church & his former accountant’s son is now Monsignor Rossi at the National Shrine

■

https://t.co/9v79LIMHFP

Sources tell me that Rossi's chances were initially buoyed by his relationship with DeNaples. "It didn't hurt," says one observer, "that his father was an intimate of this mobster who just happens to be the biggest donor to the diocese of Scranton." DeNaples, I am told, has given millions of dollars to the Church over the years, financing everything from the altar at the cathedral to the Jesuit University of Scranton (where a building has been dedicated to his parents) to Jesuit Scranton Prep (where he sent his seven kids). Some Scranton priests believe DeNaples

The National Shrine is a whole different rabbit hole. From Neumayr's gay-bashing leg work we see that DeNaples it well off, to say the least.

■ He owns his own bank (probably more.) ■

DeNaples, everyone agrees, is an immensely powerful and reclusive figure in Scranton and Pennsylvania. He owns the state's largest landfill business, has made a fortune in used parts, owns at least one bank (probably more), invests heavily in real estate (both in and out of the state; he is said to own a great deal of property in Florida), and has run countless side businesses (in busing, trash collection, and so on), some of them headquartered over the years at Robert Rossi's accounting firm, say multiple sources.

Before we return to the bank, a quick foray into campaign contributions. Here we see the convicted felon giving $15K to the Dem DA candidate in 2016 https://t.co/eVSouuzWLU

Here's DeNaples giving Kane $25K to drop an inquiry by revoking subpoenas in 2013, reported in 2015.

https://t.co/gs9wwQShdn

Here is Zappalla returning the $15K

https://t.co/yMqupcBOp9

Here is DeNaples' businesses giving former Republican governor Tom Corbett $42,500, as reported in 2015.

Corbett lost his 2014 re-election bid.

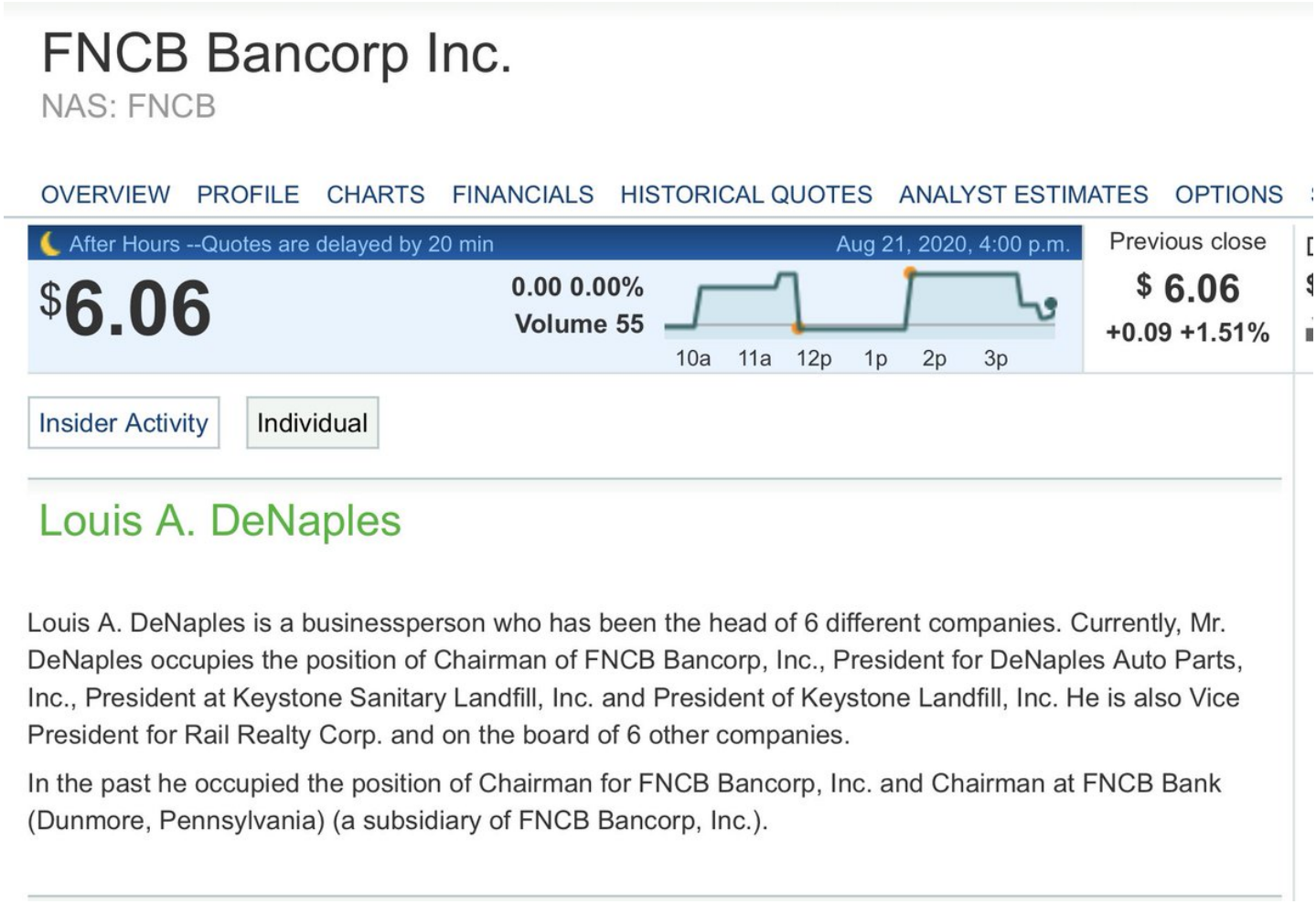
https://t.co/x1f8BItgsA

So you get the picture.

Louis DeNaples, who founded Mount Airy Casino Resort, got forced to pass the biz to his kids, & then started throwing around big bucks to politicians of all stripes. & why shouldn't he?

He's the chairman of the board at $FNCB.

https://t.co/irvnqCrkDl



It’s your basic full service bank, doing about $40 million a year in revenue, $FNCB trading around $6, with 17 locations in Pennsylvania, per this rundown off the Seeking Alpha app.

You can see the bank changed its name in 2016, but let’s not delve into that just now.

FNCB Bancorp, Inc. operates as the holding company for FNCB Bank that provides retail and commercial banking services to individuals, businesses, local governments, and municipalities in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It offers checking, savings, and certificate of deposit products; and debit cards. The company also provides 1-4 family residential loans; construction, land acquisition, and development loans; commercial real estate loans; commercial and industrial loans; consumer loans, such as secured and unsecured installment loans, lines of credit, overdraft protection loans, auto loans, home equity loans and lines of credit; and state and political subdivision loans. In addition, it offers mobile and telephone banking, check imaging, and electronic statement services; online banking products, such as bill payment, internal and external funds transfer, person to person transfers, and purchase rewards; remote deposit capture and merchant services; and wealth management services through a third party. As of January 24, 2020, the company operated 17 branch offices in Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wayne counties; and a limited purpose office in Allentown, Lehigh County. The company was formerly known as First National Community Bancorp, Inc. and changed its name to FNCB Bancorp, Inc. in October 2016. FNCB Bancorp, Inc. was founded in 1910 and is headquartered in Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

Seeking Alpha
Power to Investors

Instead, let’s contemplate the first and fourth paragraphs of this 17 day old Reuters story on the Main Street loan program which is part of the corona virus stimulus, from the CARES Act, I believe.

https://t.co/4CBUGUyCiU

BONDS NEWS AUGUST 6, 2020 / 3:25 PM / 17 DAYS AGO

Fed's Main Street adds $13 mln in loans, discloses early borrowers

Dan Burns 3 MIN READ

Aug 6 (Reuters) - The Federal Reserve added another $13 million in loans in the latest week under its new Main Street Lending Program for U.S. small and midsize businesses struggling during the coronavirus pandemic, and the central bank disclosed the largest loan so far went to a resort in Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains.

The total balance of outstanding Main Street loans rose to $95 million in the week ended Aug. 5 from $82 million a week earlier, according to data released by the Fed on Thursday.

The program, under which the Fed will buy 95% of a loan initiated by a private lender to a qualified business, has extended credit to just a handful of borrowers since launching last month.

The largest - $50 million - was to Mount Airy #1 LLC, operator of the Mount Airy Casino Resort in eastern Pennsylvania, according to a monthly disclosure to Congress by the Fed. The 5-year loan, originated by FNCB Bancorp’s FNCB Bank, carries an interest rate of 3.27%.

“The Federal Reserve … central bank disclosed the largest loan so far went to a resort in Pennsylvania’s Pocono Mountains.”

“The largest - $50 million - was to Mount Airy #1 LLC, operator of the Mount Airy Casino Resort”... made by none other than

FNCB!

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And there you have it, folks.

The biggest ever Main Street recovery loan went to a mobbed up Pennsylvania casino & it was bankrolled by the bank chaired by the casino founder, DeNaples.

They are laundering money in plain sight & that money belongs helping small businesses.

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