



ISSUE 532

MAY 2018

*Summer
is here!*



*Pool
Opening!*

*Pavilion
Opening!*





News & Events

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Social Calendar



- 5/2/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Co-Ed Poker Game
- 5/2/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Poker Game
- 5/7/18** ~ Intermediate Italian Language Class
- 5/9/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Co-Ed Poker Game
- 5/9/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Poker Game
- 5/9/18** ~ **Women's League Meeting-Traveling Vineyard-Wine Tasting Party**
- 5/14/18** ~ Intermediate Italian Language Class
- 5/14/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Bocce
- 5/15/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Women's Bocce
- 5/16/18** ~ I.A.C.C. Board Meeting and General Membership Meeting
- 5/16/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Co-Ed Poker Game
- 5/16/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Poker Game
- 5/18/18** ~ **Friday Nights At The Pavilion (Opening Night)**
- 5/19/18** ~ **Member Exclusive Pool Pre-Opening Party & BBQ**
- 5/21/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Bocce
- 5/22/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Women's Bocce
- 5/23/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Co-Ed Poker Game
- 5/23/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Poker Game
- 5/25/18** ~ **Friday Nights At The Pavilion**
- 5/26/18** ~ **The I.A.C.C. Pool Opening Weekend**
- 5/27/18** ~ **Sunday Brunch and Treviso Are Open**
- 5/28/18** ~ **Memorial Day BBQ At The Pool**
- 5/28/18** ~ Memorial Day-Treviso is Closed-No Grand Italian Buffett
- 5/29/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Women's Bocce
- 5/30/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Co-Ed Poker Game
- 5/30/18** ~ Member Exclusive: Weekly Men's Poker Game

Upcoming Events

- 5/5** ~ **St. Anthony's Mass & Brunch**
 - 5/18** ~ **Best of The Bronx - Yankees & Arthur Ave Bus Trip**
- *Unless otherwise noted, Treviso's Sunday Brunch & Monday Night Grand Buffet Occur On A Weekly Basis.*





President's Message

It looks like spring is finally here to stay, I hope. Our second floor renovation has now been completed. In last month's Siamo Qui, I asked members to suggest names for our new room on the second floor. Several people submitted some great names and their reasons why we should use the name that they suggested. I would like to thank everyone for their ideas.

The house committee met and has chosen a name; the new room will officially be called **The Caruso Room**. The room will be named for famed Italian opera tenor, **Enrico Caruso**. He lived from 1873-1921 and was from the Naples/Campagna region of Italy. Special thanks to Theresa Swanson for suggesting the name. She will forever have bragging rights for naming this room.

Spring means the pool will soon be opening and bocce leagues will soon be starting. Please join us on May 19th from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. for a special **Member Exclusive: Pool Pre-Opening Party**. On this special day, the pool will be open to all members and their families and friends and all guests are free of charge.

Our "Friday Nights at the Pavilion" will start on May 18th and go through September 14th. I hope you will attend these Friday evenings and, perhaps, volunteer a night or two. We broke attendance records last year and the feedback was tremendous from members and non-members alike.

As the rest of spring unfolds, I wish you and your family happiness and good health. I would also like to wish my mother, Linda, my wife, Nancy, and all the mothers here at the IACC a very happy Mother's Day.

Ciao,

FRANK ZEOLI
ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESIDENT



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The Italian American Community Center Foundation

presents Friday Nights AT THE PAVILION



EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM
MAY 18 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

5:00PM - 8:00PM

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fantastic new people! Play Bocce, listen
to music or just have fun at this
"open-to-the-public" event!

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THE I.A.C.C. PAVILION

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To learn more about the
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READING BETWEEN THE LINES

When researching our Sicilian ancestors, I'm often struck by the availability and nature of old records that are accessible, most of them now on-line: church records of the sacraments, as early as 1500 AD, and civil records of birth, marriage and death from 1820 through 1910 or later.

For most of our ancestors, who weren't noble, rich, or famous; who were illiterate and therefore couldn't record family history, the records mentioned above are the only bits and pieces of their lives that have been passed on for posterity. But with a little imagination, we can put some 'flesh' on the bare bones of these records.

In Serradifalco, Sicily, on Friday, 26 April 1889, the sun rose at 5:04 AM and set at 6:39 PM.

But my grandfather, Gaetano Coniglio the elder, never saw it rise or set, because he was down in the bowels of *Stincone*, one of the local sulfur mines, working to earn a meager living for his wife Maria Carmela Calabrese and their family.

Maria Carmela had borne him eight children, but Raimondo, the eldest, had left for Argentina, and three others had died in infancy, including little Leonardo, three years earlier.

Gaetano had entered the mine long before sunrise, and as the hour approached eight in the evening, he packed his gear and made the long, slippery climb out of the mine. He trod on footholds barely carved in the rock, slippery from the sweat of the labors of the *carusi*, the mine-boys who toiled all day, carrying the raw sulfur to the furnace outside the mine.

The moon was new, and invisible, but even so, as he left the black mouth of the mine, by comparison the starlit sky shone like dawn. His *cumpari*, pick-men like himself, were the brothers Vincenzo and Salvatore Barile. They accompanied him as he walked the three miles to his humble home at Via Migliore number ten. Like them, he was virtually exhausted, but his thoughts were about Maria Carmela. She was in her final days of pregnancy, and it had not been an easy one. He knew that his only daughter, thirteen-year-old Maria, would not only be tenderly caring for her mother, but also would have a bowl of hot minestrone ready for him when he arrived, perhaps even with a shred of the lamb they had relished on Easter, the previous Sunday.

But as he approached the corner of Via Roma and Via Migliore, he saw Maria anxiously pacing there. When she spied him, she ran to him, shouting "*Papà, Papà, sa veni, sa veni, lu bambinu arrivà!*" (Papa, Papa, come sir, come sir, the baby boy has arrived!)

He and his friends hurried into the building, scattering the family livestock kept on the ground floor - two hens, a rooster and one remaining lamb. Gaetano rushed upstairs to the living

quarters to see Maria Carmela calmly suckling a red-cheeked, black-haired cherub. A stoic who did not often show his emotions, Gaetano laid a tender hand on his wife's cheek and muttered "*Ha fattu beni, cara.*" (You've done well, dear.)

Carmela took the praise and jokingly responded "*Unn'ha statu? Era natu a li cinqu. Iddu già sapi parlari!*" (Where have you been? He was born at five o'clock. He already knows how to speak!)

The rest of the evening, into the early hours, was spent by Gaetano and his friends *Cenzinu* and *Turiddu* in an alcove of the living area, made somewhat festive by the decorations and baskets of palms that Gaetano had woven two weeks earlier. The *cumpari* nursed a small skin of wine that *Turiddu* had magically produced from his pack, while Gaetano sang the praises of his new son, not omitting the fact that he had fathered the child at age fifty-three! Home-made bread dipped in the wine helped to sustain their revelry, as his friends cried "*Tanuzzu, tu puru ha fattu beni!*" (Gaetano, you, too, have done well!)

The night deepened, and they realized they must return to the mine that morning: each found a warm spot on the floor and napped as best he could, while Maria tended to the needs of her mother and her new baby brother.

As Saturday morning approached, the men shook themselves awake, grabbed crusts of bread and their packs, and began the walk back to *Stincone*. Dawn was staining the sky, and they approached the mine with trepidation. The mine

owner was *Mashu Licalsi*. They called him '*Mashu Babbu*', 'Master Dummy'. He was standing arms akimbo in the mine's entranceway, and he berated them for being late, threatening that he would dock them for the lost time.

Emboldened by his new fatherhood (and perhaps by last night's wine), Gaetano retorted "Go ahead, and while you're at it, you can dock me for a half-day, because this morning, I'm taking my son to the *municipiu* to have his birth registered!"

Before *Mashu Babbu* could sputter a response, '*Cenzinu* and '*Turiddu* piped up "You can dock us, too, because we're going as his witnesses!" And they turned on their heels and trudged back into town.

So it was that at ten that morning, 27 April 1889, '*Cenzinu* and '*Turiddu*, with Gaetano gingerly cradling his baby boy, took the short walk to the town hall on Via Duca di Serradifalco.

Gaetano presented the child for Town Secretary Pasquale Vaccari to see, while a clerk recorded the details:

"Your name?" - - "*Gaetano Coniglio*"

"Age?" - - Gaetano, with obvious pride, replied "*Fifty-three!*"

"Occupation?" - - "*Sulfur miner.*"

"Date and time of the birth?" - - "*The twenty-sixth of this month, at five in the afternoon.*"

"Address?" - - "*Via Migliore number ten.*"

"Mother of the child?" - - "*Carmela [her common name] Calabrese, my wife.*"

"What do you name the child?"

There was a rigid naming convention in Sicily, requiring the first and second child of each gender to be named after their respective grandparents. This tradition had already been met with Gaetano's earlier children, so he responded "*I'm not likely to have any more sons. I'll give*

him my own name, and the name of my grandfather: Gaetano."

"Have you brought witnesses to this registration?" - - "*Yes, my friends Vincenzo and Salvatore Barile. They're sulfur miners, too.*"

"Can any of you write?" - - "*If we could write, would we be sulfur miners?*"

It may not have happened exactly that way, but who can say it didn't? On my father's Record of Birth, the clerk wrote down only the names and dates as reported by my grandfather. The 'meat' of the story comes from my heart.

By ANGELO F. CONIGLIO

Coniglio is the author of the book *The Lady of the Wheel*, inspired by his Sicilian research. Order the paperback or the Kindle version at <http://bit.ly/SicilianStory>. Coniglio's web page at <http://bit.ly/AFGen> has helpful hints on genealogical research. If you have genealogy questions, or would like him to lecture to your club or group, e-mail him at genealogytips@aol.com

ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

CELEBRATES

Saint Anthony Mass

JUNE 10TH AT 10:30 AM

CELEBRATED BY FR. CHIARAMONTE
FOLLOWED BY A
PROCESSION AROUND THE GARDEN AND LAWN

ALL ARE WELCOME!

MASS CELEBRATED IN THE GARDEN
LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE PROCESSION IN THE
FOUNDATION PAVILION

FOR INFORMATION CALL 456 -4222

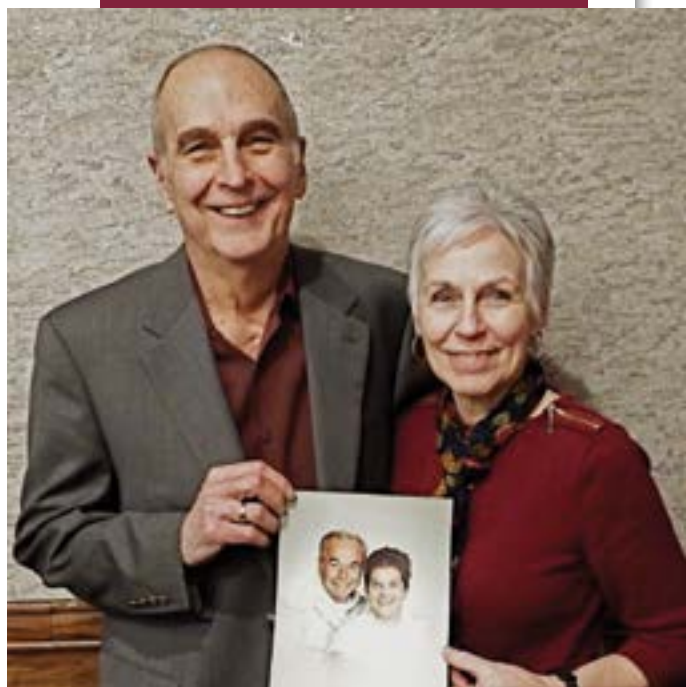


Angelo & Gail Tarantino



For almost forty years, Gail and Angelo Tarantino have been faithful members of the IACC.

What first brought them here? Ironically, it was not the quest for connection with a community of kindred who share Italian heritage and culture - something that they ultimately found here and value greatly; it was the swimming pool! As a young couple with two young daughters, the Tarantinos bought a house in Guilderland in 1979. Angelo worked for the State of New York and drove from Guilderland every day. With very little other development along Washington Avenue Extension in those days, the IACC swimming pool stood out as a landmark and a daily point of attraction leading the Tarantinos to investigate further. At that time, membership was open to individuals who could show Italian ancestry and to their spouses. Sponsorship was also required. Gail and Angelo easily met the requirements and became involved with the community immediately. Gail remembers that Anna Keniston recruited her for the Women's League, where she got to meet practically everyone. Then she joined the women's bocce league where she met everyone else. Soon, the Tarantinos welcomed a third daughter to their family and found the club was a perfect environment for socializing with other growing families. Over the years, Gail has served on several committees, including the Dinner Dance Committee and the Nominating Committee for the Women's League and she has sat on the Board as an Officer of the Women's League. Angelo has served as President of the Board of Directors and has been on the board for many years, also serving in the office of treasurer and vice president at different times.



Angelo's Italian heritage is indisputable and quite complex. His paternal grandmother and grandfather came from Bitonto in the province of Bari. As a young husband and father, Angelo's grandfather came to Fenimore seeking work in the paper mill. For several years, he had one foot on each of two continents, working in North America and maintaining a family in Europe. Finally, he moved his wife and six children to Hudson Falls, immigrating through Ellis Island. Soon, there were more babies for a grand total of nine children in the family, Angelo's father among them. They bought an old hotel to accommodate their substantial family and they operated the grocery store at

the front of the building. Angelo's maternal grandparents came to the U.S. from Giovinazzo. Angelo's mother was born in Buffalo, NY. Her father died at a young age and her mother remarried and moved the family to Hudson Falls. Angelo's parents met and married, established a family, and moved to Salem when Angelo was five years old. There, they owned and operated their own grocery store. This is where Angelo grew up.

The Tarantino family was very religious and they valued education dearly. The children were given a strong start in Catholic elementary school and many went on through college and beyond, ultimately establishing careers as scientists, teachers, and business executives. Sundays and Tuesdays were special times for visiting grandparents. There would be as many as twenty relatives, Angelo remembers, and the sound of the Italian language was prevalent. The food was delicious and abundant, some of it coming from the huge family garden. Angelo and Gail were high school sweethearts in those years and it was at a special family gathering that she first met the Tarantinos. It was 1963 and Angelo's beloved paternal grandfather had passed away. Angelo brought Gail to the house where the family was gathered for the wake. It was a noisy gathering, replete with stories of life and family, laughter and tears. Gail and Angelo earned their teaching degrees at SUNY Plattsburgh and SUNY Albany respectively. Gail passed the "sauce test" when she learned to cook sauce, instructed by Angelo's mother. There was, of course, no written recipe. There was plenty of garlic and parsley, but no sugar in the defacto recipe. The meatballs were boiled, not fried, and added to the sauce. The wedding date was set and the culture of the family has been maintained ever since. Sadly, the Italian language did fade away with the grandparents.

Maintaining and promoting the Italian heritage is an objective that the Tarantinos have for the IACC. In an increasingly global culture, it is a challenge to maintain the unique integrity of such a cultural club. That makes the mission all the more important. Friday Night in the Pavilion is a current program that reconstructs and breathes life into our cultural activity. Progress is being made in developing ties with the Sons of Italy, as well. Personally, Angelo has delved into his own genealogy. He discovered that his paternal grandfather's entire family had all moved to the U.S., with the exception of one great uncle who moved to Argentina. Angelo and Gail made two trips to Italy where they met some relatives. In the town of Bitonto, ten cousins from Angelo's paternal grandmother's family came out to accompany them on an olive oil factory tour. They communicated through a translator.



As for Angelo and Gail, their family has grown and they have one granddaughter, so far. Angelo retired from his New York State job over a decade ago. Angelo and Gail owned and operated a nondestructive testing business for many years and recently became "totally retired". Retirement allows Angelo time to play basketball in a senior league and to travel throughout the United States to play in the National Senior Games. This spring promises a Caribbean vacation.



The I.A.C.C. In The Community



We are so proud of our Women's League for going forth into the community to instruct the 5th grade children at Eagle Point Elementary School on how to make pizza from scratch. Below are some pictures of the dough making process and of the students adding their favorite toppings. Bravo, ladies for another job well done!



BOWLING NIGHTS SEASON.



The I.A.C.C. has been hosting Bowling Nights at Westlawn Lanes on Western Ave. On April 16th, we hosted a banquet for all of this season's participants at Treviso. The bowling banquet was a great success and everyone enjoyed themselves. We look forward to seeing everyone again in September.

Join Us for
MOTHER'S DAY
BRUNCH
SUNDAY MAY 13
10:30AM-2:30PM

ASSORTED CHEESES, SALADS & ANTIPASTO DISPLAY • OMELET STATION
CARVING STATION • SHRIMP COCKTAIL DISPLAY • PASTA STATION • BREAKFAST
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Please call us for more information and reservations



Bring Your Membership Card! Note: All Guests MUST Be Accompanied By A Member

2018 IACC Swimming Pool Schedule

POOL PHONE 690-7258 (to check conditions)

Members **MUST** have their membership card available while at the pool

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
May						19	July continued								
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
27	28	29	30	31			22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
June					1	2	29	30	31						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	August				1	2	3	4	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
July							26	27	28	29	30	31			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	September								1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		

Noon - 8:00 P.M.

3:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Noon - 5:00 P.M.

Member Exclusive Pre-Opening Party May 19

Noon - 5:00 P.M.

Opening Weekend: May 26 - May 28

Noon - 8:00 P.M.

Early Morning Lap Swimming-July 2-August 10

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Labor Day/Closing Day: September 3

IACC Pool Regulations

- Proper bathing attire required. No cut-off jeans in the pool.
- Clothes and towels are not to be hung on or over the fence.
- IACC is not responsible for lost or stolen articles in pool area.
- NO running or jumping, profanity, horseplay, or pets permitted.
- NO glassware permitted in pool area.
- Children under age 12 MUST be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult at all times in pool area.
- NO radios, cassettes, or CD players in the pool area.
- ALL babies and small children not toilet trained MUST wear a swim diaper at all times.
- Children using flotation devices must be accompanied by an adult in the water.
- Children using flotation devices are allowed in the shallow end of the pool ONLY.
- No smoking in the Pool area.



Happy Mother's Day



The Women's League April meeting was well attended and we were treated to an inspiring program by Master Gardener, Cathie Gifford. This year our gardens will be well stocked with herbs to achieve our culinary excellence.

Our meeting this month comes up very fast; it is Wednesday, May 9th. We will have a guest, Tanya Callahan of Traveling Vineyards. Come join the fun of a wine tasting party. Tanya will discuss how to pair wine to compliment your entrees. Your dinner guests will be so impressed at your next dinner party. You may order bottled wines, if you wish, that will be shipped to us. All payments will be accepted by credit card or a check.

The dinner selections for this meeting are Chicken Francaise, Grilled Salmon with Tomato Relish or Manicotti Marinara. Chocolate mousse will be served for dessert. Dinner is served at 6:30 and priced at \$22.00.

Please call Sharon Patrei at 518-765-3283 or email your dinner choice to slpatrei@aol.com by Sunday, May 6th. There are 13 members who already made their reservations for this dinner at our last meeting. As is standard policy, please let Sharon know of any cancellations by May 7th.

I would like to remind everyone that Friday Nights at the Pavilion will begin on May 18th. The hours are from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We ask for your support in this effort. We need volunteers to work the evenings. You may sign up for any dates that fit your schedule. These nights are busy and actually fun for the volunteers. The second way to support the Friday Nights is to come yourself and enjoy the delicious food and, perhaps, bring some friends.

In closing, I wish all mothers a very Happy Mother's Day.

Looking forward to seeing everyone,

Linda C. Hoffman
Women's League President



Grilled Eggplant

The weather is finally starting to warm up which means it's grilling season! This grilled eggplant is one that I learned from my parents while growing up. I just changed it up a bit by adding fresh basil and using balsamic vinegar instead of the red wine vinegar they use.

Wash and dry the outside of an eggplant, and then slice it into round slices. Heat your grill on med-high heat and put your eggplant slices right on the grill. Flip the eggplant once the bottom looks soft and has grill marks. Grill for a few more minutes until both sides look cooked and a little charred. Be careful to keep on eye on it and don't let it burn! They should only be on the grill for a few minutes on each side, depending on how thick your slices are.



Remove the eggplant slices from the grill and place them into a bowl. Let them cool before dressing them. Once they're cool, drizzle balsamic vinegar and extra virgin olive oil over the slices. Season with sea salt, cracked black pepper, minced garlic (or garlic powder), and chopped fresh basil. Toss the eggplant well so that they are all covered with the dressing. Drizzle a little balsamic glaze over the top for some sweetness!

This eggplant is meant to be served cold and is the perfect side dish at a BBQ! You could even enjoy it for lunch with a nice slice of Italian bread!

Buon Appetito



Intermediate Italian

Spring 2018

Learn the world's most beautiful, romantic, and musical language this spring!

This 8 week class focuses on improving your conversational skills by utilizing both familiar and new phrases and vocabulary. An elementary level knowledge of Italian is required.

Class Dates: Monday 3/26/18 - 5/14/18

Class Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$75 I.A.C.C Members / \$85 Non-Members (Plus \$10 for Materials)

Location: The Italian American Community Center ~ 2nd Floor
257 Washington Avenue Ext, Albany, NY 12205

Register: Call (518) 456-4222 - OR -Visit: www.IACCFoundationAlbany.org

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED REGISTER TODAY!

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September 13, 2018 - September 28, 2018

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- * Land transportation by comfortable motor coach with expert driver, luggage portage
- * Escorted by knowledgeable, professional guide
- * 14 Land nights
- * 14 Breakfast
- * 14 Multi course gourmet dinners with wine
- * Visit to two, world famous vineyards that include wine tasting and dinner

Limited space availability remains. Call today for more information. For detailed itinerary and sign on instructions, please call or email Rosanna Aiuppa, Agent.

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Come Join In The Fun Of Playing In An I.A.C.C. Bocce League

If you are a novice or experienced player, please consider joining one of our leagues. They are free, fun and will allow you to meet many of your fellow members. If you cannot commit to playing every week, walk-ons are welcomed. The men's bocce league plays Monday nights at 6:30, starting May 14th, (if interested contact the Men's Bocce League President Jim Sano at 438-4631).

The women's bocce league plays Tuesday nights at 6:30 starting May 15th, (if interested contact the Women's Bocce League President Maria LaMorte at 456-4800). Join one of our bocce leagues today.

We always have a great time!

Caring & Sharing

- Joseph Allegretti
- Liz Asadourian
- Mark Audino
- James Barnes
- Monica Barnes
- Miriam Castellanos
- John Chiamonte
- Patricia Corsi
- John Derboghossian
- Carmela DiCerbo
- Michael Doyle
- Susan Dratler
- Charles Ferrara
- Michael Fondacaro
- Michelina Forte
- Frances Franke
- Joseph Frasca
- Gino Sestito
- Anthony Geddes
- Sal Genovesi
- Raphael Vitillo
- Otis Hall
- Dennis Ippoliti, Jr.
- Teresa Ippoliti
- Craig Knack
- Jim Knapik
- Catherine Kollias
- Nancy Zeoli
- Joseph Lapetina
- Arthur Lucarelli
- Rosemary McHugh
- Maria Moffa
- Mary Eileen Nolfo
- Andrew Pallotta
- Josephine Paolucci
- Linda Papa
- Marilyn Quadrini
- Terry Rinaldi
- William Rucinski
- Mary Ryan
- Regina Sacca
- Robin Sacco
- Meg Salamack
- Rachele Salerno



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CONDOLENCES



Our condolences to **Sherri Bellucci** on the loss of her uncle, **Busty Riolo**, on March 23.



Condolences to member **Carl Trichilo** on the passing of his wife, **Janet Trichilo**.



Condolences to the **Scalzo family** on the passing of **John Scalzo, Lynda Scalzo's** father.



Condolences to the **Sims family** on the passing of **James Sims**.



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On Memorial Day Treviso is Closed - No Grand Italian Buffett

I.A.C.C. Members enjoy a **50% Discount!** *

Monday Night Italian Grand Buffett

* Maximum Discount up to a party of 30 people.



ONLY \$21.95 per person



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