



The New World

Rejected by the Portuguese king for a three-ship voyage of discovery, Columbus took his plan first to Genoa and then to Venice but was rejected there too. He then went to the Spanish monarchy of Isabella of Castille and Ferdinand of Aragon, in 1486. Their nautical experts too were skeptical and initially, Columbus was rejected. The idea however, must have in-

trigued the monarchs, for they kept Columbus on a retainer. But their focus was on a war with the Muslims and Columbus would have to wait.

Columbus continued to lobby the royal court and soon after the Spanish army captured the last Muslim stronghold in Granada in January of 1492, the monarchs agreed to finance his expedition. In August of 1492, Columbus left Spain in the Santa Maria, with the Pinta and the Niña along side. After thirty-six days of sailing, Columbus and several crewmen set foot on an island in the present day Bahamas, claiming it for Spain. There he encountered a timid but friendly group of natives who were open to trade with the sailors exchanging glass beads, cotton balls, parrots, and spears. The Europeans also noticed bits of gold the natives wore for adornment.

Columbus and his men continued their journey, visiting the islands of Cuba and Hispaniola (now Haiti and the Dominican Republic) and meeting with the

leaders of the native population. During this time, the Santa Maria was wrecked on a reef off the coast of Hispaniola. With the help of some islanders, Columbus' men salvaged what they could and built the settlement Villa de la Navidad ("Christmas Town") with lumber from the ship. Thirty-nine men stayed behind to occupy the settlement. Convinced his exploration had reached Asia, he set sail for home with the two remaining ships.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Everyone,

How fast summer has passed. It feels like last week we were just planning our Summer Festa. Now we are days away from our Columbus Dinner Dance.

I want to thank the following members for exceptional contributions: **Jeanette Bowers** and her committee for an outstanding job with our Festa Italiana held at the end of July, **Jim Sano** and his staff for the work at our pool over the summer months, **Anna Acconi** and the Women's League for a very successful Fabulous Fall Festival, and **Maria DeNitto** and the Pavilion committee for all the work staffing and cooking in the Pavilion all those Friday nights. Our Pavilion has a new life! Congratulations to **John Ritz**, the newly elected Men's Club President.

October is Italian Heritage Month. This year we will be a sponsor of the Columbus Italian Festival at Cook Park in the Village of Colonie, on Saturday, October 8 and Sunday, October 9 (more details on pg 6).

Please take some time to support our heritage by attending or volunteering. I hear there's great food being served.

Our heartfelt congratulations to Cesare Maniccia, this year's Italian American of the Year, who has given freely of his time and passion coaching soccer for many thousands of children in the capital region.

G. George Urciuoli, President

October Calendar

Every Monday	Italian Grand Buffet
Every Wednesday	IACC Bowling 6:00 PM
October 8 & 9 Sat & Sun	Columbus Day Festival at Cook Park (Colonie)
October 10 Monday	Men's Club Meeting 6:30 PM
October 12 Wednesday	Women's League 6:00 PM
October 15 Saturday	Columbus Dinner Dance
October 18 Tuesday	Board Meeting 6:30 PM
October 19 Wednesday	Book Club 7:00 PM
October 22 Saturday	Children's Halloween Party

Save the Date

November 15 Tuesday	Board Meeting 6:00 PM Board Elections 7:00 PM
December 15 Thursday	Christmas in Italy

ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER
257 Washington Avenue Extension
Albany, New York 12205

*a place where family and friends can
meet, eat, play and
celebrate Italian heritage*

IACC Office

Linda Sciocchetti IACC Secretary
Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
518.456.IACC | FAX: 518.456.0338
membership@italianamerican.com

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	GEORGE URCIUOLI 373.0092
VICE PRESIDENT/CHAPLAN	JIM SANO 438.4631
TREASURER	DAVID CESARI 365.5830
SECRETARY	MARIA MARCHIO 438.9067

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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JEANETTE BOWERS	456.0292
MARIA DENITTO	456.2216
CHRISTINE DI IONNA	357-8711
LINDA DILLON	356.5686
DOMINIC INDELICATO	937.8759
LARRY LENARTZ	477.7432
SHARON PATREI	765.3283
GAIL TARANTINO	355.1316
DONNA ZUMBO	452.2617

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

BY-LAWS	ROBERT PENNA
COLUMBUS DINNER DANCE	MARIE LAMORTE
EXTERNAL CONTRACTS	ROSANNA AIUPPA
FINANCE	ANGELO TARANTINO
GRIEVANCE	JEANNE SACCA
HOUSE	LINDA DILLON
MEMBERSHIP	RICHARD OGNIBENE
WOMEN'S LEAGUE PRESIDENT	DONNA ZUMBO
POOL	JIM SANO
SIAMO QUI	RACHEL CAMERON EDITOR GEORGE URCIUOLI LAYOUT DOMINIC INDELICATO ADVERTISING

Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to:
Rachel Cameron, Editor, rcamero@nycap.rr.com

Help Wanted

Siamo Qui staff is looking for a new Design/Layout Editor. If you are comfortable using the *Publisher*, are able to work with computer graphics, and you have a few hours a month to help create our newsletter, please e-mail the SQ Copy Editor, Rachel Cameron, at rcamero@nycap.rr.com.

Election of Board Members

According to our new By-Laws passed in December 2010, election to the Board of Directors will be held in **November**. Ten seats will be available.

If you are interested in applying for one of these vacancies and can satisfy all of the following requisites, please submit your brief resumé to the IACC Office.

IACC By-Laws state that “each candidate for director shall satisfy the following requisites:

- Be at least 21 years of age.
- Be a United States Citizen.
- Be a voting member of the corporation in good standing.
- Have at least one year as a member immediately preceding the election.
- Never have been convicted of a felony.
- Not be a full time employee of the IACC

No director, including the past president, may be elected to serve two consecutive terms.

Directors shall not be eligible for re-election or appointment to the board for one year after they complete their term on the board.

Husbands and wives may not serve on the Board of Directors simultaneously.”

The election will be held at the **General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM.**

In order to bring us back into compliance with our By-Laws and re-establish the staggered terms of board members, this year the following process will be implemented for the Board elections. The five people with the most votes will serve a three-year term. The middle group of four people will serve two years. One person with the next highest amount of votes will serve a one-year term.

Current Nominees For Board of Directors

1. **Rosanna Aiuppa**
A long time active member and champion for Italian culture, Rosanna has been essential in so many aspects of the IACC. She is a past member of the board, has chaired the Building and Grounds committee and is currently president of IAHLFI and chairperson of the Contract Committee.
2. **Jeanette Bowers**
Jeanette, General Manager of the Mallozzi Group, has been supportive of all IACC events. This year, she chaired the Festa Committee and has participated in IACC programs. She currently is serving on the board.
3. **David Cesari**
David joined IACC in 1975. He is currently serving as Treasurer for IACC and IAHLFI. He is also a member of the Men's Bocce League. David is CEO of Morgan Linen.
4. **Christine Di Ionna**
Chris, an accountant at Ayco Company, has been active in the Women's League for many years. She has chaired the committees for the Halloween party and the Family Christmas party and has worked on the committees for the Craft Fair and the Fall Festival. Chris has served as President and Vice-President of the Women's League and currently sits on the Board.
5. **Dominic Indelicato**
Dominic and his wife, Lynn joined IACC in 2009. He is currently Advertising Director for *Siamo Qui*. Dominic works for Underground Imaging Technologies.
6. **Maria La Morte**
Maria has been an active member of the IACC for many years. She has been editor of *Siamo Qui*, has chaired the Columbus Dinner Dance Committee, and has taught Italian lessons at the center. Maria has also volunteered her assistance for many Women's League events. She is a primary advocate for Italian culture.
7. **Robert Penna**
Bob and his wife have been members of IACC since 2001 and have volunteered for the Festas. Bob served 13 years in the New York State Senate as staff member or chief of staff for 3 senators and recently published a book, *Nonprofit Outcomes Toolbox*. He is currently on the board of IAHLFI.
8. **Ron Richards**
Ron has been an active member of the IACC for many years. He has served on the Festa committee, the pool committee, the pavilion committee and the bocce league. In addition, Ron has worked for the Columbus Day parade events.
9. **John Ritz**
John has been a member of the IACC for three years and was influential in establishing the Men's Club. He has been in business for over 40 years in the region with Lota Construction and A-Ritz Demolition.
10. **Al Sacca**
Al, a long-time, active member of the IACC, has served as President and has chaired the Pavilion Committee. Al has also been a member of the Festa Committee, the Bingo Committee and the Building and Grounds Committee.
11. **Angelo Tarantino**
Angelo has been a member of the IACC for over 30 years. He served as president, vice president and treasurer; served on various committees; and enjoyed playing bocce for many years. He currently is chair of the Finance Committee. He retired as Bureau Director of Training from NYS office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and owned/operated his own company for 25 years.

IAHFi Cultural Corner

WHO AM I?

I was born in 1451 in the Republic of Genoa.

I was the son of Domenico and Susanna Fontanarossa.

I had three brothers: Bartolomeo, Giovanni Pellegrino and Giacomo.

I had two children: Diego and Fernando.

I began my sea-faring ways when I was 14 years old.

After many years of lobbying and negotiating, I was given three ships – the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria – to prove my theory that a westerly trade route to Asia was possible.

I wanted to bring the word of Christ to any non-Christians I met.

Between 1492 and 1503, I made four successful voyages from Spain to the Americas under the sponsorship of the Crown of Castile.

I used the trade winds to successfully navigate the Atlantic Ocean.

I held the title of Admiral of the Ocean Sea and Viceroy and Governor of the Indies.

My voyages led to the first lasting European contact with the Americas which began a period of European exploration and colonization that lasted for centuries.

I was known as Christobal Colon in Spain.

I died in 1506 at the age of 54.

Answer on page 11.



Just wanted to remind everyone that all members MUST sign their restaurant checks for the membership discount. Please remember to do so.

The new Members' Monday has been a huge hit! We are seeing more members come out than ever before. We are glad you are enjoying your discount! An **18% gratuity** will now be put on to all member checks on Monday evenings. This applies to the Monday Night Buffet only.

Buon Appetito.

New Members

Jeanne Wilson, Watervliet

Sponsor: Theresa Nowicki

Robert Schmit III & Julia Palma, Albany

Sponsor: Jim Sano

Robert & Linda Schmit II, Albany

Sponsor: Jim Sano

Louis & Barbara Palma, Albany

Sponsor: Jim Sano

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Columbus Italian Festival - Cook Park

During the summer, representatives of the IACC had numerous meetings with the members of the Albany Sons of Italy Lodge, the Troy Italian Community Center, and the Columbia County Sons and Daughters Lodge #659. Our club, along with these organizations, will sponsor this year's **Columbus Italian Festival at Cook Park** in the Village of Colonie, on **Saturday, October 8** and **Sunday, October 9**.

This should be a great step in bringing the entire Italian American community in the area together. Now is the time that your support is needed in order to make this event successful. Volunteers will be needed! We hope that many of you will consider helping out. The two-day event will be filled with lots of entertainment, delicious Italian food, cultural exhibits, vendor booths and fun for the entire family. **If you would like to volunteer, please contact the IACC Office at 456-4222.**

We are proud of our Italian heritage. Your support is needed in order that the Italian American community remains strong in order to insure that our heritage and customs will be passed on to future generations. Unity should be our main goal and our strength. Please make it a point to attend and show your support!

C.I.A.O of Upstate NY *Council of Italian American Organizations*

Albany Sons of Italy Roma Intangible Lodge #215

Albany Italian-American Community Center

Columbia County Sons & Daughters Lodge #659

Troy Italian Community Center

COLUMBUS FESTIVAL 2011

Cook Park, Village of Colonie

October 8, 2011 Noon – 8 PM


October 9, 2011 Noon – 6 PM

Italian Food, Music, Cultural Displays, Dancing, Craft Vendors

Rides for the Kids, Face Painter, Clowns and Stage Shows

Fun for The Entire Family

FREE ADMISSION – FREE PARKING



The Goblins are haunting
the monsters will mash,
we are all ready for the annual
IACC Halloween Bash!

Saturday, October 22, 2011

12 Noon - 4 PM

IACC Pavilion

Adults \$10

Children Free

RSVP by October 13

Christine Dilonna

357-8711

cdiionna@gmail.com



*Fly in for a good time!
Young and old are
welcome to wear a
costume!*



Pizza & Snacks

Halloween Treats for Dessert





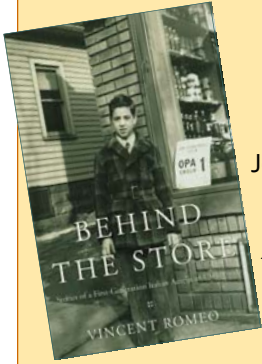
IAHFi Book Club

Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM
October 19, 2011

Free Admission

Open to the Public

Join us in our Board Room, second floor



Behind the Store: Stories of a First Generation Italian- American Childhood

By Vincent Romeo

Vincent Romeo is an actor who has appeared in theaters across the country and in movies as well.

Upon the death of his parents, he decided to create a book filled with his mother's recipes, which was her legacy. Like families in Italy or those newly migrated to the United States, the kitchen was an almost sacred place where love was doled out in almost limitless portions. The act of assembling the recipes unleashes a flood of childhood memories for Romeo, some of which were warm and wonderful, while others reflected the hardships of beginning life anew in a place that was not always welcoming. For children of immigrants who were born in the United States, there were always tensions while growing up due to the clash of old and new world views.

Behind the Store is the third memoir read by the Book Club, joining a list that includes *Were you Always Italian* by Maria Laurino and *Life al Dente* by Gina Cascone. Like other authors who write memoirs, Romeo shares memories of a childhood that is lively and poignant, but also offers reflections that are painful. Romeo's book shows how a young person struggles to establish his own identity while still honoring his Italian heritage. And lucky for us, he remembered to share a good number of his mother's tantalizing recipes. For further information, contact Dick Ognibene at rtognibene@nycap.rr.com or at 372-4919. If you have books that you recommend for future Book Club discussions, please provide that information. Your input is highly appreciated.

The Book Club will resume in March and April 2012.

Columbus Day Dinner Dance

By now you have received invitations in the mail for the Columbus Day Dinner Dance at the Italian-American Community Center on Saturday, October 15, 2011. Our honoree this year is a very deserving recipient who has devoted much of his life and talent to preserving for the Capital Region's children the joy and accomplishment of *calcio* (soccer). We will dedicate our event to Cesare Maniccia, who has given freely of his passion and abilities in fostering, preserving and coaching soccer for many thousands of children in the capital region.

Please consider attending this, one of our favorite events at the IACC, and enjoy with us a glittering evening of good food, wine, music, dancing, and the shared love of our Italian heritage, La Dolce Vita!

The Dinner Dance Committee

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IACC

Men's Club



Congratulations to John Ritz the newly elected President of the Men's Club.

Men's Club will meet on **Monday, October 10th** at 5:15 PM. We will enjoy the Monday night buffet, followed by our business meeting at 6:30PM in the Card Room. After the business meeting, there will be cards and Monday Night Football.

Please contact John at 434-0209 during the day or 477-7477 in the evening if you plan on attending the dinner.

John Ritz, President

IACC Bookshelf

Books that have been previously discussed may be borrowed from the IACC Office, where they are on display. If you have books that could be added to this collection to be read by others, please bring them to the IACC. Books should be in English and have a connection to an Italian setting, character, issue, or event.



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As you've heard me say before, I don't know too much about what it's like to be Italian. My only exposure to Italian culture growing up was Homestyle Pizza in Schenectady and the Godfather movies. As I got older I realized that those two things were probably not the best representations of Italian culture, the latter of which especially: A movie which was based on a book about a fictional family who came from an island that has only been "Italian" for 150 years is not the best depiction of an ancient culture.

Sicily has a very distinct culture, much different from the rest of Italy. It was ruled by Greeks, Germans, Arabs, and Vikings before it became a kingdom of its own and then eventually absorbed into the greater Kingdom of Italy in the mid 19th century. (They were promised fair representation in the new kingdom and ended up getting hosed.) While technically they speak Italian, (albeit in a dialect native Italian speakers claim is difficult to understand) much of its culture reflects its colorful past, and many of their traditional dishes are what we here in the states equate with Italian cuisine. Two examples are Chicken Marsala and meaty, red sauce lasagnas.

Sicily is a volcanic island, and as a result is extremely fertile. Its mild climate and long growing season makes it one of the premier agricultural hotspots in Europe. This of course also means it produces a lot of wine. This little island produces more wine than Austria (home of the Gruner Veltliner) and New Zealand (renowned for its Marlborough Sauvignon Blancs) combined. Most of what they produce is Nero d'Avola. Nero d'Avola, or the "black (grape) of Avola", produces wines which are dark in color and rich in flavor. Naturally they were made to go along with the rich saucy foods that come from the region, but it can stand on its own.

This month Treviso is featuring Villa Pozi Nero d'Avola. If you're not sure how you'd like to wet your whistle, I'd say "fuggedaboutit" and go with what the Sicilians have been quaffing for centuries.

Salute!

Women's League

Girls' Night Out

SOS CALLING ALL WOMEN

Hi Ladies,

This month we will once again, be supporting "Uncle Shawn's Hugs" by having a blanket cutting party. As many of you know, Uncle Shawn's Hugs was started to honor the memory of Dawn Martin's son. He was in the Marines and was killed in Iraq. Dawn always said Shawn gave the best hugs. Now, in his memory, she distributes fleece blankets to children with the Marines "Toys for Tots" drive. So many children, some even without winter clothing, love these blankets! Now it's our turn to help out by making these blankets at our next meeting. We will try to have most of the blankets already cut, so all we need to do is tie the fringe ends to finish the blanket. But just in case, bring along your scissors.

We need a large turnout to complete all these blankets, so if you have been thinking of coming to a meeting, this is one you don't want to miss. Please come. I urge all women in our IACC family to come!

We will start a bit earlier than usual. Dinner will be at **6:00 PM** followed by a short business meeting. Then we can make our blankets. Our dinner selections are Beef Roulade with Spinach and Bleu Cheese, Stuffed Sole, or Eggplant Rollatini. All entrées will be served with potato and vegetables. We will start with Butternut Squash Bisque and end with Apple Crisp and Vanilla Gelato.

Call or email your reservations to **Lynn Indelicato** at 479-3714 or domlynn@yahoo.com by **Monday, October 10th**. Cancellations by **Tuesday, October 11th**.

Hope to see **MANY** of you on **October 12th** at **6:00 PM**.

Donna Zumbo, Women's League President

IACC Bowling Wednesday Nights

Since last year's first annual IACC Bowling was quite successful, we have begun another season this year. We bowl on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM at Westlawn Lanes in Guilderland. We bowl two games. The cost is \$3.00 per game. Bowling shoe rental is also \$3.00. If you would like more information or wish to participate, please contact Angie Groelz 250-4736.

Fabulous Fall Festival

By Anna Acconi

The first annual fall festival sponsored by the Women's League can officially be considered a success. Almost 40 vendors participated, selling goods ranging from organic meats to Tupperware and from bird houses to shoes. Children painted pumpkins, adults shopped and all took advantage of the good homemade food and desserts on a beautiful day.

I would like to thank all members of the committee who worked so hard and all volunteers for their efforts and help. Special appreciation goes to Christine Di Ionna, Gail Tarantino, Maria Marchio, Maria De Nitto, Santa Pasquini, Donna Zumbo, Lynn Indelicato, Rose Guastamacchia, and Sharon Patrei. In addition, we acknowledge that we could not have been successful without the assistance provided by Lou Acconi, Joe Di Ionna, Joe Guastamacchia, and Jim Sano. So, think ahead and mark your calendars by recording the date of September 23, 2012, the day of the second annual fall festival. It will be even bigger and better than this year's event.



CARING & SHARING By Anna Acconi

October Birthdays:

Steven Alger	Robert LaMorte
Angelina Anastasio	Larry Lenartz
Salvatore Anastasio	Janice Lindemann
Marilyn Aragosa	Theresa Lomonoco
Rosetta Barbato	Bruce Long
Michael Basile	Tara Mallozzi
Robert Casillo	Carolina Mancino
David Cesari	Paul Mancuso
Helen Crisafulli	James Nowicki
Joseph Di Ionna	Julia Palma
Linda Dillon	Fulvia Pizzitola
Marilyn Ellerbrock	Philip Sabatino
Richard Frank	Wayne Tearno
Joanne Gray	Bryan Valenti
Sandra Hameroff	Anna Zumbo
Pauline Kuzmak	

Condolences:

Our sincere condolences to **Loretta Gadani** and her family on the loss of her husband, **Ettore**, who passed away on August 31.

Deepest sympathy to **John and Josephine Paolucci** and their family on the passing of their daughter-in-law, **Jill**, on September 14.

Our condolences to the **Airhart** family and especially to **John and Michael** on the passing of their father, **Robert Airhart**, on August 29.

Condolences to **Nancy Sano** and her family on the death of her uncle, **Nicholas Cardinale**, who passed away recently at the age of 91.

Congratulations:

Congratulations to **Sante and Carmela DiCarlo** who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the IACC on September 3.

Congratulations to this year's Men's Bocce Champions, the Desert Foxes, led by captain **Nick Mancini** with team members **John Bremm, Armand Colatasti, and Pete Scavullo**.

Congratulations to **Joe and Connie Dominski** who recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on August 21.

Convalescing:

Thoughts for a speedy recovery are sent to **Jeanette Bowers**.

Please contact Anna Acconi at 966-8664 or aacconi111@aol.com

Answer for page 4
I am Christopher Columbus.

Torta di Mele (Dialect – Honey) Moist Apple Cake

By Maria La Morte



Ingredients

- 5 apples
 - Juice of 1 lemon
 - 200 g (7 oz) sugar
 - Seeds scraped from 1 vanilla pod or a few drops of good vanilla essence
 - 5 eggs
 - 300g (10 oz) plain flour
 - 150 g (5 oz) butter
- Natural baking powder for 300 g (10 oz) flour
50 g (2 oz) pine nuts, toasted

Directions

- Preheat the oven to 170 °C/340 °F. Put the butter into a pot and melt in the oven, taking care that it doesn't burn.
- Peel the apples and cut them into small pieces. Add the lemon juice and 50 g of the sugar. Mix together and set aside.
- Break the eggs into a large bowl. Add the remaining sugar and beat together well. Add the melted butter, the vanilla, the flour and the natural baking powder, mixing well.
- Add the apples.
- Put the mixture in a cake tin, sprinkle the toasted pine nuts on top and bake for 40 minutes or until a skewer inserted in the centre of the cake comes out clean.

Serve with whipped cream, custard or vanilla ice cream.

My nonna made a torta like this when we went to pick apples at a farm in Katonah when I was small.

Interpreti Veneziani to Perform at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall

Interpreti Veneziani, master musicians from Venice, will perform one concert on Saturday, November 5, 2011, at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. This ensemble performs a season of more than 200 concerts each year at Venice's San Vidal Church where Vivaldi used to play. They have recorded 15 cds with Rivo Alto. Please visit www.interpretiveneziani.com for more information about the company. For more information about the November 5th concert, please contact the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.



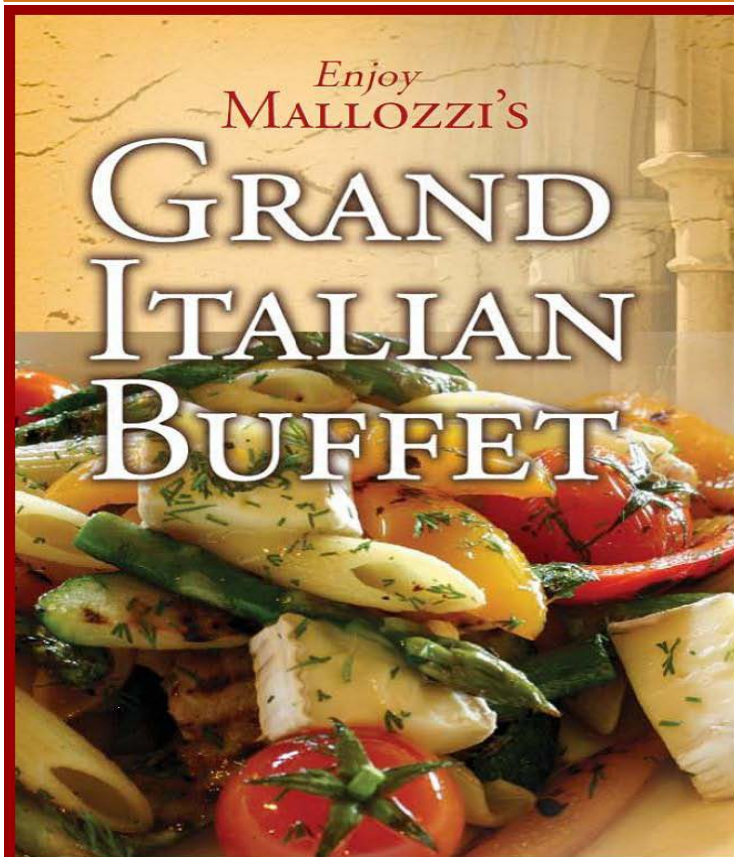
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