

"WE ARE HERE"

# Siamo Qui

## SUNDAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY BRUNCH WILL BE HELD MONTHLY ON THE **THIRD** SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.



These are the scheduled dates:

- FEBRUARY 19**
- MARCH 19**
- APRIL 16**
- MAY 21**
- JUNE 18**
- SEPTEMBER 24**
- OCTOBER 15**
- NOVEMBER 19**
- DECEMBER 17**

## GRAND ITALIAN BUFFET

THE MONDAY NIGHT GRAND ITALIAN BUFFET WILL BE HELD MONTHLY ON THE **FIRST** MONDAY OF THE MONTH.



These are the scheduled dates:

- FEBRUARY 6**
- MARCH 6**
- APRIL 3**
- MAY 1**
- JUNE 5**
- SEPTEMBER 11**
- OCTOBER 2**
- NOVEMBER 6**
- DECEMBER 4**



H A P P Y  
*Valentine's Day*

FROM THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

## NEWS & EVENTS

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# SOCIAL CALENDAR

*February*



**02/06/23** ~ Monday Grand Italian Buffet - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**02/08/23** ~ No Women's League Meeting - Winter Break

**02/12/23** ~ Super Bowl 57 Party - 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

**02/19/23** ~ Sunday Brunch 10:00 am - Noon

**02/27/23** ~ Intermediate Italian Language Classes Begin - 7:00 pm

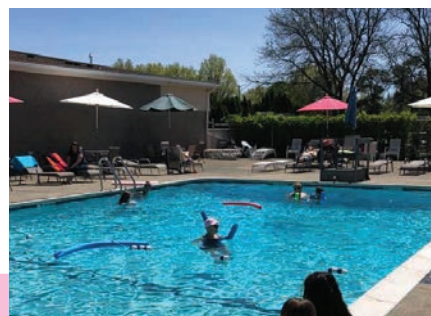
## *Upcoming Events*

**03/02/23** ~ Chair Yoga Begins - 6:00 pm

**03/19/23** ~ St. Patrick - St. Joseph Mass And Brunch

**04/01/23** ~ Arthur Avenue "Little Italy in the Bronx" Spring Bus Trip - 8:30 am

**05/10/23** ~ Best of the Bronx Yankee/Arthur Ave Bus Trip- 8:00 am



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone's new year is starting off in the right direction. Our club's new year certainly has. As I said before, we are celebrating our 50th anniversary this year and every event and program we hold will echo with the voices of the men and women who, 50 years ago, had a vision to create a place where strangers became friends and friends became family. Please try to make as many of our events this year as you can.

This month we will hold our Super Bowl 57 Party on February 12th which offers members and non-members an exciting way to enjoy the game by watching it on a 12-foot HD screen. The event also includes a dinner, halftime buffet, soda, beer, games of chance, raffles, and prizes. Make your reservation today as this event sells out each year.

Looking ahead, on March 19th we will hold our annual St. Patrick/St. Joseph's Mass and Brunch. This year's mass will not be the same without Father Chiamonte but in his honor we will continue with the tradition of holding not only this mass but our St. Anthony's Mass in June. His commitment to our club was unparalleled and his spirit will live on for years to come at the IACC.

As a reminder if you have not paid your dues yet, please do not delay. Dues payments not received by February 28th will result in losing the loyalty discount.

We have a great year ahead and I hope to see all of you very soon.

Ciao,



FRANK ZEOLI  
ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER - PRESIDENT



### I.A.C.C. OFFICERS

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES~ FRANK ZEOLI

COLUMBUS DAY GALA~ FRANK ZEOLI,

### SIAMO QUI

EDITOR ~ JOAN WALLIS

CREATIVE DIRECTOR ~ CATALINA ARANGO

ADVERTISING ~ JIM SANO

### I.A.C.C. OFFICE

HOURS: M-F 9:30AM TO 2:30PM

THERESA LAJOY- OFFICE MANAGER

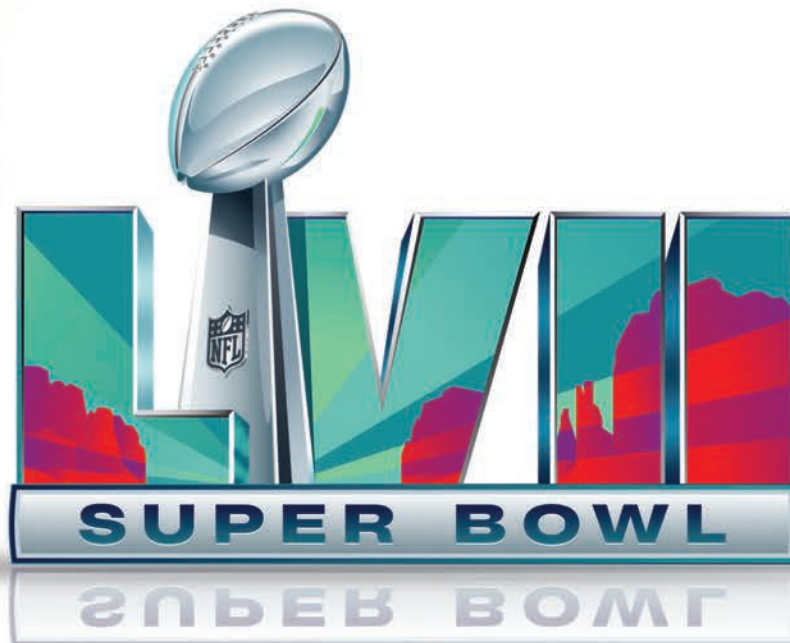
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# SUPER BOWL 57 PARTY



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12

12 FOOT HD SCREEN

RAFFLES & PRIZES



Doors open: 4:00 pm



Pre-Game Buffet: 5:30 pm

## PRE-GAME BUFFET

Garden Salad  
Dinner Rolls  
Chicken Parmigiana  
Eggplant Parmigiana  
Penne Ala Vodka  
Meatballs  
Mixed Vegetables

Cost: \$45 for members  
\$50 for non members



**Reservations Required**  
Call 456-4222

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

## HALFTIME BUFFET

Pizza  
Cheeses and Crackers  
Plus: Beer, Soda  
Coffee, Tea  
and Dessert



REGIONS  
OF  
ITALY

# Islands of Venice

## -Part Five -

By JIM SANO



**Saint Helena**

**A**t the eastern end of Venice's historic center, off most tourist itineraries, lies the Island of Sant'Elena. Saint Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine and had a fundamental role in his conversion to Christianity. She is credited with finding the tomb of Christ carved into the rock and the cross. She was immediately considered a saint, spreading her cult to the east and the west. Legend has it that the ship carrying the saint's remains ran aground on this island, and the sailors managed to free the boat from the muck but had to remove all cargo. Once the sailors brought the load back on board, the ship got stuck again and resumed floating only when the urn with the saint's remains returned to shore. The sailors left the saint's remains on the island and continued to Venice. These remains forced the inhabitants to construct a chapel in 1028. The Augustinians later added a convent and church in 1400. In 1806, Napoleon converted the monastery into a warehouse and the church into a munitions depot. The remains of St. Helena were moved to the Cathedral of St. Peter, where they remained until 1930, when the new church was built and the saint was brought back with a memorable procession. Important reclamation works followed and the island expanded and became urbanized; along with homes, a municipal football stadium and the Morosini Naval College were built.

**Crevan or Fort Crevan** is a small island at the northern end of the Venice lagoon, southeast of the Burano Marsh (which separates it from Burano Island) and at the Crevan Canal's confluence in the Burano Canal. It has an area of 3,651 square meters, of which 377 square meters have buildings. During French rule at the beginning of the 19th century, a chain of small fortresses was built

at the Crevan Canal and Burano canal's confluence; Fort Crevan was one of these. The purpose of the construction was to defend the southeast access



**Fort Crevan**

of the Burano Swamp. In 1866 with Italian unification, the island passed to Italy as part of Venice. After a period of neglect, the island became private; the military buildings and surroundings were subsequently modified for residential purposes. The last owner of the island was the politician and entrepreneur Giorgio Panto. He founded the Progetto Nord Est (North-East Project), which called for more independence for Veneto and surrounding regions. He died on November 26, 2006, when his helicopter crashed shortly after taking



off from Crevan. The island has since been returned to the control of the City of Venice.

**Cason Montiron** is a small uninhabited island in the northern end of the Venetian Lagoon. The name Montiron derives from the Venetian dialect and refers to the island's formation from silt deposits left from floods and mainland erosion. On the other hand, Cason refers to agricultural endeavors which have existed on the island since at least 1556 AD, when the place began to appear in documents. At that time, Cason Montiron was not an island, but a rural building erected at the lagoon edge near the Siloncello Canal's mouth. Currently, the islet is abandoned and has only one old building in a state of neglect, formerly used by fishermen from Burano.



**Cason Montiron**

The Venetians had a complex defense system to protect Venice and the Venetian lagoon from invaders. The plan comprised islands known as batteries and others known as octagons that were just islands with octagonal-shaped forts. The Republic of Venice, in 1571, built octagons on four islets and named them for the towns they were located across. The islands' names are as follows: Ottagono Alberoni, Ottagono San Pietro, Ottagono Ca' Roman, and Ottagono Campana. The octagons were constructed when Venice was very concerned about possible invasions from the Turks. The four forts are now mostly in ruins and are the property of the Italian government. The island of **Sant' Andrea (Saint Andrew)** (Forte di Sant' Andrea), which houses a large fortress built in the 16th century, is also part of this defense system.



**Forte di Sant' Andrea**

The following islands comprise what was known as the batteries, Fisolo, Ex Poveglia, Campana o Podo, Trezze, Campalto, Tessera, Carbonera, and Buel del Lovo. These eight fortified islets were the second part of the Republic of Venice's defensive system to defend the city from attacks from the mainland and the sea. After the Republic's fall, the French first and then the Austrians structurally modified the islands. Most artifacts, originally simple stilts consisting of stilt houses, were expanded with wall masonry, artillery bases, lookout posts, munitions, and barracks. The batteries also played an essential role during World War I and World War II, with radiotelegraphic stations, bunkers, and anti-aircraft artillery installations. Most islands are currently in an acceptable state; some have been converted to dwellings like the privately-owned

Fisolo, Tessera, and Campana o Podo. The islands of Ex Poveglia, Carbonera, and Buel del Lovo are abandoned and decaying. Trezze is currently a plant that manages the decomposition and supply of methane gas for Venice.

**La Cura** is located in the north lagoon between the islands of Santa Cristina and Torcello. It was part of the ancient city of Costanziano and housed the churches of Saints Sergius and Bacchus and St. Matthew. Over the last century, the island was used as a fish farm, and the agricultural area was cultivated by a farming company, which left the premises about 40 years ago. Today, the farm and land are derelict. However, the island has recently been the center of archaeological excavations, which have yielded relics of an ancient 7th century settlement.





**Lio Piccolo**

**Lio Piccolo** is a peculiar set of islets separated by narrow channels. Lio is a local term, now in disuse, meaning lido. Over the centuries, it has undergone a considerable land transformation due to marine erosion. Lio Piccolo, today, is a purely agricultural and sparsely populated town. Archaeological evidence describes the place as a flourishing commercial port in Roman imperial times. Lio Piccolo is a hidden paradise of biodiversity. The famous castraùre (violet artichoke) and the zizòle (jujube) are cultivated here, and pink flamingos reside only in this area of Italy. These flamingos are not as pink as those found elsewhere in the world due to the absence of shrimp.

The village peaked at about 500 inhabitants during its flourishing salt industry era. However, its population density is much lower today. The village consists of small islands separated by narrow canals, agricultural lands, and salt marshes. Therefore, its economy is mainly based on farming and fishing. This set of islands went through various stages of sustaining life or were wholly abandoned throughout history because it would be too dangerous as the islands became submerged.

The historical references mention a monastery and parish dedicated to the Savior and another church dedicated to Santa Maria from the 11th-13th centuries. There are no historical references from the 15th to much of the 17th century because the town was uninhabitable. In 1696, the settlement was re-established with the construction of a church dedicated to our Lady of the Snow, built on Santa Maria's ruins. It became the property of the Boldù nobles. In 1791, they built the

current church rededicated to Santa Maria della Neve and restored the nearby palace, the Boldù Palace. 1860 saw the church's expansion, with the rectory's construction and the bell tower in 1911. Once again, the island succumbed to the rising tides and erosion and was abandoned. The island was stabilized in the 1970s. In 2008, the restoration of the Boldù Palace, the church, and the belltower was completed.

**Dei Laghi (The Island of Lakes)** is located in the northern lagoon, between Mazzorbo and Torcello on the Burano Canal, 7 km from Venice. Until the 1970s, the area was a place of silt and mud called "Swamp of the Lakes." This area was created from soil, waste, and sludge taken from dredging several canals. The location was called "Island of the Lakes." In part "island" and part "marsh." For this reason, it has never been inhabited and is devoid of construction, apart from a few huts used in horticulture. Dei Laghi is no longer a dumping area for mud and has been included in the New Venice Consortium recovery plan for the islands.

**Monte dell Oro** is located in the northern Venetian Lagoon, near the Island of Sant'Ariano. The island gets its name from an ancient legend. Attila got bogged down in the lagoon's sandbars and lost the golden chariot of the golden arch of Attila and other priceless treasures that disappeared into the treacherous sands. The area was inhabited by inland refugees who constructed a Benedictine monastery and a church dedicated to San Cataldo. The area depopulated towards the end of the Middle Ages because of sea erosion, and the island was considerably reduced. In 1848, the



Venetian insurgents built a solid fortress to counter the Austrian invasion during the Venetian Revolution. The area fell to the Austrians and was only used as a small military post, with about fifty soldiers, to control the secondary access channels to the lagoon. The Italian army used this fort during the First and Second World Wars. Today, there are only traces of one bastion that are ruined and eroded. There is no trace of any previous buildings. The Italian government still owns the island.

**Motta di San Lorenzo** owes its name to the ancient parish church of San Lorenzo that once stood here. The island looks like a small mountain that emerges from the lagoon waters. The Motta di San Lorenzo and Motta dei Cunicci, Santa Cristina, San Andrea, and San Felice were part of the early medieval town of Ammiana. These are considered the Venetians' and Romans' first settlements due to the barbarian invasions and are an intrinsic part of Venice's history and evolution. This settlement dates back to the 1st or 2nd century. The island's population peak occurred in the late 6th century, primarily from refugees from Jesolo and Heraclea, who the Langobards uprooted. The rising water levels made settlement more difficult. Still, despite that, in Byzantine times, a military reorganization took place, and a castellum was built, in which the church of San Lorenzo was enclosed. Its inhabitants abandoned this island in the 11th and 12th centuries due to water erosion. In 1185, it was placed in the hands of Benedictine nuns who lived there until 1810, when Napoleon forced its closure. After that, it was only used for fishing and horticulture. The 1966 floods destroyed many of the remains recognizable by the water's surface. The island had been the subject of lively archaeological research in the 1980s, when unearthed traces of a Roman villa from the 3rd century and a Byzantine fortification were found. Formerly owned by the Padri Mechitaristi Armeni, the island is now owned by Swarovski.



**Monte dell Oro**



**Isola Santa Cristina**

**Isola Santa Cristina** is a wild, eco-sustainable island thriving in the Venice Lagoon. This private island and hotel are only accessible to guests staying at the resort. They offer exclusive natural experiences such as fishing ponds, orchards, vineyards, and wild animals such as peacocks, pheasants, and pink flamingos.

**Salina (Isola di San Felice delle Saline)** is a small, privately owned island in the northern lagoon on the San Felice canal. In 899, the friars of the monastery of Saint Stefano di Altino, fleeing from the Hungarians, founded the new convent of Saint Felix and Fortunato. In the mid-15th century, poor environmental conditions forced the last remaining monks to settle in Venice, where they founded the abbey of St. Philip and James. Abandoned for centuries, in 1844, Salina was chosen as the headquarters for a large plant to produce sea salt. In 1913, salt production activities ceased, and the area was inhabited by peasant families who dedicated themselves to horticulture and fishing. Abandoned again after WWII, in 1992, private individuals developed it to carry out agritourism and fishing activities.

**Sant' Ariano (The Island of Bones)** was first settled by the land-dwellers from the Roman city of Altino, who fled to escape barbarian marauders in the 6th century. Their descendants later moved to Venice proper in the 13th century and gave Sant' Ariano to two religious orders, who built monasteries and a church there. The convent was run by the Benedictine nuns and was home to girls from the wealthiest families in the region. These nuns were locked up against their will



**Motta di San Lorenzo**



**Motta dei Cunicci**

**Motta dei Cunicci** is a small island so named due to the presence of rabbits. It was part of the Ammian archipelago. Since Roman times, the island was inhabited but fell victim to the lagoon's rising water level and malaria in the 14th/15th centuries. The church of San Pietro di Casacalba was built here, but centuries ago was swallowed up by the lagoon waters.

and involved in some scandalous episodes with patricians. In 1439, many were transferred due to their transgressions. Another episode and trial occurred in which four Venetian nobles were accused of breaking into the convent. These episodes and the sea erosion and malaria made the Benedictine nuns decide to abandon the convent. Sant' Ariano was given a new purpose: as an ossuary (bone repository, burial ground). Part of the remaining island was then used to collect the bones during the cemeteries' eviction intended to sanitize Venice. The remains were so numerous that they created mounds, and in 1665, it was decided to construct a wall along the coast of the island to hide them from the sight of passers-by. These transfers of bones continued even after the fall of the Republic until 1933. At the end of the 20th century, bulldozers covered everything with dirt. The entrance is protected by a high brick wall of more than a meter and a half, which encircles it completely and is interrupted only by a small chapel near the front door. There is access to the island via small boats. Still, setting foot there is dangerous, with the only vegetation being impenetrable brambles and the only animals being giant rats and snakes. □



**Salina (Isola di San Felice delle Saline)**



**Sant' Ariano (The Island of Bones)**



## IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

**Current I.A.C.C. Memberships expire Saturday, December 31st, 2022  
Membership renewal and new enrollment starts on January 3rd at the  
I.A.C.C. Membership office.**

**REMEMBER TO SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FRIENDS**

**You may enroll by sending your invoice (with payment)  
in or by calling the I.A.C.C. Membership Office at (518) 456-4222.  
Cash, Checks, Credit and Debit cards are accepted.**

**Thank You For Being A Member.**

***Here's To An Amazing 2023 At The Club!***





## Eggs in a Basket

Growing up I always enjoyed spending nights overnight at a my grandmother's house. She always made us feel special and would make our favorite dishes. In the morning she would always make a big breakfast for me and my sister. She would make all of the greatest hits; eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes and fresh toast but my favorite was her "Eggs in a Basket". It was a simple dish to make but it was one she only made for us and I always looked forward to it. She usually served it with some bacon. It's still one of my favorites today.



*Prep Time: 5 minutes*  
*Cook Time: 15 minutes*

### Ingredients

- 2 eggs (cracked, whole egg)
- 2 slices of Italian bread (about 1½ to 2 inches thick)
- 2 tsp of unsalted butter
- ½ oz of olive oil
- Salt & pepper (to taste)

### Instructions

1. Cut 2 pieces of Italian bread from a loaf. You want them to be about 1½ to 2 inches thick. Create a hole in the center. My grandmother did it by eye however you can use a biscuit cutter or even the opening of a glass to create the hole.
2. Butter both sides of the bread.
3. On medium heat, add olive oil to a frying pan and then add the 2 pieces of buttered bread. Once the oil and the butter on the bread starts to sizzle, crack one egg into each piece of bread so the egg yolks are facing up. Add salt and pepper.
4. Cook the eggs for 3 minutes, flip the bread with egg inside and cook the other side for another 3 minutes.
5. Flip the bread and eggs over and move to a plate for serving.

Add something extra to the breakfast by serving it with bacon or sausage.



# That's Not A Real Job

By JOE SANO



**W**hen Tony Sericolo told his dad he would be paid to ice skate for 60 minutes at a time while watching men play ice hockey, his puzzled dad said, "That's not a real job!"

For 23 years, Tony lived the nomadic life of an NHL (National Hockey League) on-ice official - a linesman. Linesmen (linespersons) are primarily responsible for watching for violations involving the center line and the blue line. Such infractions include icing and offsides, after which the linesmen conduct faceoffs. They are also expected to break up scuffles, fistfights and other altercations that occur during the game. It was a job that was both thrilling and grueling.

Looking back, he is thankful for the opportunities given to him, an Italian kid from Watervliet. Professional ice hockey is not necessarily the first sport one thinks of when looking for superstars with an Italian heritage. Indeed, Mike Ricchi and the Esposito brothers, Tony and Phil, standout quickly but it's not easy to recall others. Tony loved and still loves the game. As a young man, he honed his ice hockey skills at Troy's LaSalle Institute where he also dabbled in place kicking for the football team. His love for the game continued in Springfield, MA

where he attended American International College.

In his junior year, the team clinched the ECAC Division II Championship. As a team captain, he earned his first introduction into ice hockey officiating. Game officials would have a pregame meeting with the teams' captains explaining their game expectations and adherence to specific rules. He never gave those meetings much thought.

Upon graduation, finding a job was tough. Tony's good fortune landed him a position with Mike DeRossi's Sports in Guilderland/Westmere. Mike was like a second father to young Tony. He encouraged Tony's player participation in USA Hockey at the regional, national and select level and helped him balance work and sport. As his hockey skills continuously improved, Tony began to question his ability to reach the elite professional level. Meanwhile in the early 90's, Tony was asked if he could help out officiating the 6-year-olds "biddie" hockey games. He was happy to help but readily admitted he didn't have a clue what he was supposed to do. It was fun working with the kids and with each game the officiating became easier.

Tony heard that the New York Rangers were holding their training camp in Glens Falls and was able to finagle entry to the arena to watch the workouts and scrim-





images. Sitting in the stands with a dozen or so fans was a special treat. The intersquad scrimmage was intense. A fight soon broke out and while breaking it up one of the linesmen was injured. Harry Ammian from USA Hockey who knew Tony saw him in the stands and beckoned him to the ice. “Can you help us out and fill in as a linesman?” Puzzled, Tony asked, “What do I do?” Harry shot back, “Just skate, look smart and blow your whistle when the goalie gloves the puck.”

Tony laced his skates, grabbed a whistle and shortly thereafter a melee knocked the goal off its pegs. Mark Messier, the Rangers superstar, approached Tony and asked, “Do you know what you’re doing?” Tony replied, “Well, not really!” Regardless, Tony knew then that this was what he was called to do.

An honest reflection of his hockey skills and abilities convinced Tony that his focus must be placed on learning and practicing his craft as a hockey official. He began to work high school contests and progressed into officiating games in the AHL—the American Hockey League.

The Adirondack Red Wings and Albany River Rats games gave new opportunities and meaning to Tony’s career. It was during these AHL and Calder Cup contests that John D’Amico a supervisor for NHL officials spied Tony and invited him to the NHL officials training camp.

These Buffalo based 7–8-day camps were held annually. Here officials and aspiring recruits had their physical conditioning and stamina as well as their rules knowledge evaluated.

Fast forward to a pre-season game in 1998 and Tony was on the ice at Madison Square Garden for a New York Rangers game. As the game progressed, Tony was managing a faceoff. Mark Messier, the Rangers star center, was removed from the faceoff by Tony. A disgruntled Messier says “Hey aren’t you the guy from the Glens Falls scrimmage?” “Yes, I am,” Tony replied. “Well...don’t you ever throw me out of a faceoff again!” So much for a hug and a pat on the back.

Yet over the years, Tony had a great rapport with the players and realized that as an official in professional sports the job came with plenty of scrutiny and criticism. Tony accepted that. He welcomed the challenges and the comradery of the sport he loved.

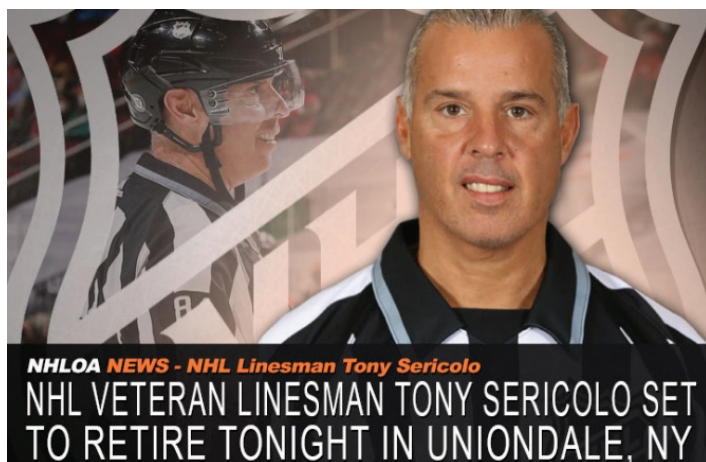


He worked 1,500 games, spent 60 minutes minimum per game skating on the ice without a break, traveled thousands of miles, officiated the 2006 Torino, Italy Winter Olympics as well as the 2014 Yankee Stadium Series and the outdoor 2018 Winter Classic. After averaging two hundred days on the road a year and way too many hotel beds to count, Tony hung up his skates on May 8, 2021.

Today Tony believes in and continues the task of staying in shape. Armed with aching knees and joints fighting flexibility, Tony would not trade his life’s work. It is important to give back. This winter he is planning to help as a “Skate Guard” at the Empire State Plaza Rink. Say hi to Tony if you are there. He promises not to put you in the penalty box.

Reminiscing about his time in a “zebra shirt” he has no regrets. “It was a busy, great life, a fantastic job that enabled me to provide for my family.”

**Indeed, it was a real job—a really great job! □**



# TELEGRAMMI ...

## 2/6/22 - U.S. Postal Service reveals stamps for 2023, featuring Italian author and illustrator.

The United States Postal Service has announced the new lineup of stamps to be released in 2023 with one featuring a classic Italian author and illustrator. Among civil rights leader John Lewis, the art of the skateboard, and a Florida Everglades exclusive is a stamp that pays tribute to one of Italy's most loved authors. This stamp honors Tomie dePaola, the author whose work covered folktales and legends, many informational books, religious and holiday stories, and even some autobiographical tales. The stamp features the artwork of Strega Nona, written in 1975. The story is set in southern Italy and focuses on "Strega Nona," or Grandma Witch in English. Strega Nona uses magic to help those who struggle with issues in their heart and helps heal illnesses. For this stamp, art director Derry Noyes used dePaola's original artwork.

## 12/6/22 - Il servizio postale degli Stati Uniti rivela i francobolli per il 2023, con autore e illustratore italiano.

*I servizi postali degli Stati Uniti hanno annunciato la nuova gamma di francobolli in uscita nel 2023, uno con un classico autore e illustratore italiano. Tra il leader dei diritti civili John Lewis, l'arte dello skateboard e un'esclusiva delle Florida Everglades, un francobollo che rende omaggio a uno degli autori più amati d'Italia. Questo francobollo onora Tomie dePaola, l'autore il cui lavoro ha coperto racconti popolari e leggende, molti libri informativi, storie religiose e di vacanza e persino alcuni racconti autobiografici. Il francobollo presenta l'opera d'arte di Strega Nona, scritta nel 1975. La storia è ambientata nel sud Italia e si concentra su "Strega Nona", o nonna strega in inglese. Strega Nona usa la magia per aiutare coloro che lottano con problemi nel loro cuore e aiutare a curare le malattie. Per questo francobollo, il direttore artistico Derry Noyes ha utilizzato l'artwork originale di dePaola.*

## 12/10/22 - Friend of Italian PM Giorgia Meloni among three killed in Rome coffee shop shooting.

A friend of Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and two other women were shot dead Sunday when a man opened fire at a Rome coffee shop. The women were holding a board meeting for their condominium in Rome's Fidene district when the 57-year-old gunman stormed in and opened fire, according to Italian authorities. The suspect was overpowered and detained by other residents at the meeting. Arriving police arrested the man. "He came into the room, closed the door and shouted, 'I'll kill you all' and then started to shoot," one witness said, according to Italian news agency Ansa. The suspect was known to board members and had been in a series of disputes with the residents' association, according to witnesses.

## 12/10/22 - Anche un amico del primo ministro italiano Giorgia Meloni tra i morti nella sparatoria in un bar di Roma.

*Un amico del primo ministro italiano Giorgia Meloni e altre due donne sono state uccise domenica quando un uomo ha aperto fuoco in un bar di Roma. Le donne stavano tenendo una riunione del consiglio per il loro condominio nel quartiere Fidene di Roma quando l'uomo armato di 57 anni ha fatto irruzione e ha aperto il fuoco, secondo le autorità italiane. Il sospetto è stato sopraffatto e trattenuto da altri residenti durante la riunione. La polizia in arrivo ha arrestato l'uomo. "È entrato nella stanza, ha chiuso la porta e ha gridato: 'Vi ammazzo tutti' e poi ha iniziato a sparare", ha detto un testimone, secondo l'agenzia di stampa italiana Ansa. Il sospetto era noto ai membri del consiglio ed era stato dentro una serie di controversie con l'associazione dei residenti, secondo i testimoni.*

## 12/15/22 - Sinisa Mihajlovic died: the disease was discovered playing pickle ball.

Sinisa Mihajlovic died at the age of 53. He discovered his disease, acute myeloid leukemia, by chance in 2019, playing padel, (pickle ball). In recent days, the worsening of his condition was in the news and today came the confirmation of his death. In Italy, he played for Roma, Sampdoria, Lazio and Inter; and he coached Bologna, Fiorentina, Sampdoria, Milan and Turin. He leaves his wife Arianna and six children.

## 12/15/22 - Sinisa Mihajlovic è morto, aveva 53 anni: la malattia scoperta giocando a padel.

*Sinisa Mihajlovic è morto all'età di 53 anni: aveva scoperto la sua malattia - una leucemia mieloide acuta - per caso, nel 2019, giocando a padel. Negli ultimi giorni le notizie sull'aggravarsi delle sue condizioni, oggi la conferma della morte. In Italia ha giocato per Roma, Sampdoria, Lazio e Inter; ha allenato Bologna, Fiorentina, Sampdoria, Milan e Torino. Lascia la moglie Arianna e sei figli.*

## 12/30/22 - More than 135,000 Catholics flock to the Vatican as Benedict XVI lies in state.

More than 135,000 people have already flocked to the Vatican, a day before the funeral on Thursday of the former Pope Benedict XVI – an unprecedented ceremony in the modern history of the Catholic church given he will be buried by the incumbent, Pope Francis. Benedict died on Saturday at the age of 95, almost a decade after becoming the first pope in 600 years to resign. The number of Catholics paying tribute in St Peter's Basilica, where his body is lying in state for three days before the funeral, has beaten the expectations of Rome officials. Francis, during his weekly audience on Wednesday, hailed his predecessor, a conservative thinker, as "a great master of catechesis".

## 12/30/22 - Più di 135.000 cattolici accorrono in Vaticano mentre Benedetto XVI giace in stato.

*Più di 135.000 persone sono già accorse in Vaticano, un giorno prima dei funerali di giovedì dell'ex papa Benedetto XVI - una cerimonia senza precedenti nella storia moderna della chiesa cattolica dato che sarà sepolto dall'incumbent, papa Francesco. Benedetto è morto sabato, all'età di 95 anni, quasi un decennio dopo essere diventato il primo papa in 600 anni a dimettersi. Il numero di cattolici che rendono omaggio nella Basilica di San Pietro, dove il suo corpo giace in stato per tre giorni prima del funerale, ha superato le aspettative dei funzionari di Roma. Francesco, durante l'udienza settimanale del mercoledì, ha salutato il suo predecessore, un pensatore conservatore, come "un grande maestro della catechesi".*

## 1/3/23 - Thousands bid farewell to Pelé.

Soccer great Pelé was laid to rest on Tuesday after thousands lined the streets in the city of Santos to view his funeral procession. The procession had started at the Urbano Caldeira Stadium, home of Pelé's former club Santos, and his coffin was carried through the streets of Santos, including the street where Pelé's 100-year-old mother, Celeste Arantes, lives. It continued to the Memorial Necrópole Ecumênica cemetery, where a private funeral would be held for family members.

## 1/3/23 - Migliaia di persone salutano Pelé.

*Il grande calciatore Pelé è stato sepolto martedì dopo che migliaia di persone hanno sfilato per le strade della città di Santos per vedere il suo corteo funebre. La processione era iniziata allo stadio Urbano Caldeira, sede dell'ex club di Pelé, il Santos, e la sua bara è stata portata per le strade di Santos, compresa la strada dove vive la madre centenaria di Pelé, Celeste Arantes. Ha continuato fino al cimitero Memorial Necrópole Ecumênica, dove si sarebbe tenuto un funerale privato per i membri della famiglia.*





# Intermediate Italian

## Spring 2023

Learn the world's most beautiful, romantic,  
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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.

**Classes Start: February 27, 2023**

**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](http://www.IACCFoundationAlbany.org)**

**CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED REGISTER TODAY!**

# CARING & SHARING



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Albert Sacca  
Catherine Saglimbeni  
Patti Sheffer  
Tracey Smith  
Gail Tarantino  
Kerri Tily  
Donna Whalen

## February Birthdays



### Condolences

To Maria Marchio and her family on  
the passing  
of her nephew, Frank Marchio.



To Nancy Massaroni on the passing  
of her husband, Joe Massaroni.



## Welcome

*new members*

**Anthony & Elizabeth Potenza**  
**Anthony Esposito**





**H**ello ladies,

February brings thoughts of Groundhog Day, Super Bowl and, of course, Valentine's Day. Who doesn't love chocolate and flowers? In Italy, St. Valentine's Day is called "La Festa Degli Innamorati" - the Feast of Lovers. It is a day that has historical roots and many different myths and legends surrounding the origin of it.

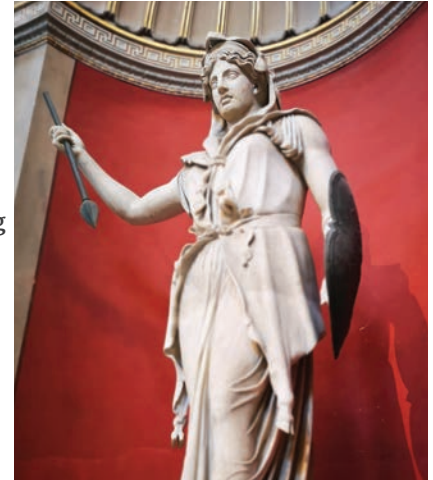
Here are a few phrases to add a little romance to your vocabulary, after all Italian is the language of love!!

- **Amore a prima vista** - Love at first sight
- **Anno te oggi e sempre** - I love you today and always.
- **Ti amo** - I love you.

Now that you are fluent in the language of love, here's a bit of history regarding the special day. St. Valentine's Day originated in Italy, during the days of the Roman Empire. Some people say that the date of February 14th, was the day when Juno, the queen of the Roman gods and goddesses and of women and marriage, was celebrated. There are so many stories, I could fill the entire newsletter, and I'm surely not going to bore you with all that!!

There was no Women's League meeting in January and we will not be having one in February. We, however, are planning a movie night with the viewing of "The Neighborhood that Disappeared" on Saturday, February 25th. We will be meeting upstairs at 4pm and ordering pizzas.

If you will be attending, please call Darlene Carino at (315) 266-7726 or email her at Darlenecarino27@gmail.com by Wednesday, February 22nd. Please bring a dessert or a non-alcoholic beverage to share and let Darlene know what you will be bringing. The cost of the pizza will also be divided among those attending. Monthly Women's League meetings will resume on Wednesday, March 8th.



Thank you to everyone who has donated to our charities throughout the year. Your kindness and generosity were greatly appreciated by the children, families and staff. Remember it's only 114 days till pool opening!! Buon San Valentino!!

*Happy Valentine's Day*

*Georgeann Greene*  
PRESIDENT



*Chair Yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting in a chair or standing using the chair for support. Remember to wear loose comfortable clothing!*



## CHAIR YOGA IS BEGINNING A NEW 8 WEEK SESSION

This class is enjoyed by so many and is returning for an 8-week spring session. Classes will be on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. It begins on March 2nd through April 20th. The class is held upstairs in the Caruso Room. Classes are open to men and women.

Please call the membership office at 456-IACC (4222) to sign up.

**The price is for 8 weeks is \$60.00 or \$10.00 per class to walk in.**



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The Italian American Community Center, founded in 1971, is an organization dedicated to serving anyone and everyone who love all things Italian!

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**(Call (518) 456-4222 To Join Today!**