



ISSUE 628

AUGUST 2026



**ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESENTS**

ferragosto

**Saturday, August 15, 2026
2PM | Bonfire at Dusk**

**Lunch, Dinner, Dessert
Coffee & Tea are Included.
*Other beverages are available
for purchase.***

**This is a free member event.
*Guests of members & pool
members are welcome for
\$25.00***

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.ITALIANAMERICAN.COM

Last days of summer!



NEWS & EVENTS

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SPAGHETTI AL POMODORO





SOCIAL CALENDAR

August

8/03 ~ Italian Grand Buffet - 5:00 pm

8/03 ~ Men's Bocce League - 6:30 pm

8/04 ~ Women's Bocce League - 6:00 pm

8/07 ~ Friday Nights at the Pavilion (Stuffed Peppers Meat or Meatless: \$14.00) 5:00-8:00 pm

8/09 ~ Sunday Brunch to Benefit the IACC Kids Playground 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

8/10 ~ Men's Bocce League - 6:30 pm

8/11 ~ Women's Bocce League - 6:00 pm

8/12 ~ Women's League Meeting - 6:00 pm

8/14 ~ Friday Nights at the Pavilion (Lasagna Meat or Meatless: \$14.00) 5:00-8:00 pm

8/15 ~ Ferragosto 2026 - 2:00 pm

8/15 ~ \$5,000 Raffle Drawing - 7:00 pm

8/17 ~ Italian Grand Buffett - 5:00 pm

8/18 ~ Women's Bocce League – 6:00 pm

8/21 ~ Friday Nights at the Pavilion (Linguine with White Clam Sauce: \$18.00) 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

8/28 ~ Friday Nights at the Pavilion (Chicken Parmesan with Pasta: \$16.00) 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

8/31 ~ Italian Grand Buffet – 5:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/04 ~ *Final Friday Night at the Pavilion (Cheese Ravioli w/Meatballs: \$15.00)*
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

9/07 ~ *Labor Day Pool BBQ - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm*

9/13 ~ *Final Day of the Pool Season BBQ - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As summer reaches its peak, we look forward to one of the season's highlights: our annual Ferragosto Celebration, and we invite all our members, families, and friends to join us for this special day-long event. Rooted in the ancient Roman festival of Feriae Augusti ("Augustus' Rest"), Ferragosto has been celebrated for more than 2,000 years as a time to pause from work, gather with loved ones, and enjoy the abundance of summer. Over the centuries, it has become one of Italy's most beloved holidays, centered on family, friendship, great food, and community.

Every year, the celebration is memorable with a spectacular **pig roast and bonfire**, creating the perfect setting for an evening filled with laughter, delicious Italian food, music, and fellowship. Whether you've attended for years or will be joining us for the first time, Ferragosto is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, welcome new members, and celebrate the traditions that unite us.

Before Ferragosto arrives, we encourage everyone to come together for another exciting community event: our **Playground Fundraiser Brunch**. This special gathering is more than just a delicious meal shared with friends and family. It is an opportunity to invest in the future of our community and help create a vibrant new playground where children can laugh, play, and make lasting memories. Enjoy a wonderful brunch, connect with fellow members, and be part of a meaningful project that will benefit our families for years to come. Your support and participation can make a lasting difference, so we hope to see a great turnout for this important fundraiser.

The fun continues all summer at the IACC with various activities. Our popular Friday Nights at the Pavilion offer a weekly gathering with delicious food and engaging conversations. Additionally, our heated pool remains a favorite spot for families to relax, stay active, and enjoy the warm weather.

These traditions are more than events; they celebrate our Italian heritage, our shared values, and the friendships that make the Italian American Community Center such a special place. We look forward to seeing you and your family at the Playground Fundraiser Brunch, at Ferragosto, and throughout the summer!

Jim Sano

JIM SANO
ITALIAN AMERICAN
COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESIDENT



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I.A.C.C. FOUNDATION

ANNUAL CASH DRAWING

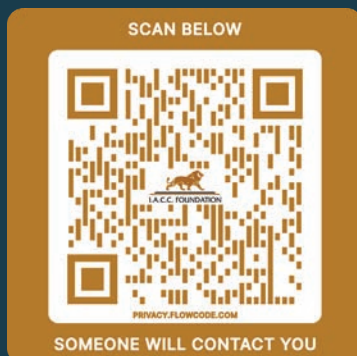
\$100 A TICKET | ONLY 200 TICKETS SOLD
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DRAWING TO BE HELD AT FERRAGOSTO 2026
ON AUGUST 15, 2026

Everyone is welcome to participate, not just members.

HOW TO PURCHASE A TICKET:

- Call the Membership Office at 518-456-4222.
- Or scan the code below and someone will contact you.



We're selling 200 tickets at \$100 each, which means the odds are in your favor.

Team up with friends or family, or surprise someone with a ticket as a gift!



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
THE IACC PLAYGROUND
FUND



Mantua And Sabbioneta PART I

BY JIM SANO



UNESCO recognizes **Mantua and Sabbioneta** as World Heritage Sites for their Renaissance urban planning, architectural achievements, and artistic legacy. These two cities are designated as a single UNESCO World Heritage Site. Mantua and Sabbioneta are municipalities in the Italian region of Lombardy. They are rich in charm, art, and history, showcasing exceptional Renaissance and Baroque architecture. The cities represent important stages in territorial planning and urban development by the Gonzagas, leaving a lasting impact on urban development and the spread of Renaissance culture during their rule.

Mantua, also known as Mantova, has a long history dating back to ancient times. Evidence of human settlement in the area dates back to the Etruscan civilization. It later became a Roman colony in the 2nd century BC. During the Medieval Period, after the fall of the Roman Empire and throughout the Middle Ages, Mantua was conquered by various rulers, including the Ostrogoths, Byzantines, Lombards, and Franks. In the 11th Century, Mantua fell under the rule of Boniface

of Canossa, Marquis of Tuscany, and one of the most powerful lords of his time. Boniface's daughter, Matilda di Canossa, was the city's last ruler, and after her death, Mantua became a free commune.

The Gonzagas ruled Mantua for 300 years and transformed it into a city that embodied Renaissance urban ideals. During the 15th and 16th centuries, Mantua underwent extensive improvements in water systems, urban planning, and buildings. Their support for Renaissance art led to significant redesigns of Mantua under architect Giulio Romano, turning it into a Renaissance masterpiece and a central hub of art and culture. Notable artists like Leon Battista Alberti, Andrea Mantegna and Pisanello contributed breathtaking works of art to the city. Mantegna is famous for his detailed frescoes in the Ducal Palace, while Pisanello is recognized for his paintings, medal-making, and detailed portraits. As a student of Raphael, Giulio Romano brought his architectural and artistic talents to Mantua, including the design of Palazzo Te, which stands as an exquisite example of Mannerist architecture.

Mantua also has a rich literary legacy, associated with the works of the influential Roman poet Virgil, who was born nearby in the village of Andes, now Pietole. Mantua proudly honors his legacy, as his works, including the "Aeneid," "Georgics," and "Eclogues," have significantly influenced Western literature.

The Gonzaga family's rule ended in 1707 when the Habsburgs of Austria seized Mantua. In the late 18th Century, Mantua fell under French control during Napoleon's conquest of Italy. However, Napoleonic rule was short-lived, as in 1814, Mantua returned to Austria. Mantua, along with the rest of Lombardy, became a part of the Kingdom of Italy in 1866 following the unification of Italy.

It has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008 and was the Italian Capital of Culture in 2016 for representing Renaissance urban, architectural, and artistic achievements associated with the Gonzaga family.

DUICAL PALACE IN MANTUA

The Ducal Palace, also known as Palazzo Ducale di Mantova, is a complex of buildings from different eras; it comprises nine hundred rooms, including various spaces such as halls, corridors, studios, stairs, loggias, and galleries. This massive complex covers approximately 34,000 square meters. The Palace has fifteen open areas, including squares, courtyards, gardens, and courtyards. It is one of Italy's largest architectural museum complexes and the sixth-largest palace in Europe. Constructed initially in the 13th century by the House of Bonacolsi, it was later expanded by the Gonzagas. The Palace served as the primary royal residence for the Gonzaga family, who ruled the Duchy from the late 14th to the early 18th centuries. Over the centuries, various Gonzaga family members contributed to its construction, adding connecting corridors, galleries, courtyards, and expansive gardens. The Ducal Palace includes the 14th-century Castle of San Giorgio and the famous Camera degli Sposi, adorned with frescoes by Andrea Mantegna. These frescoes painted between 1465 and 1474 are celebrated as masterpieces of 15th-century Italian art.

In the late 16th century, Duke Guglielmo Gonzaga unified the previously detached buildings into a cohesive complex. The Chief of the Buildings, Giovan Battista Bertani, was tasked with this project. He created an enormous, imposing complex covering 34,000 square meters, extending from Piazza Sordello to the lower lake. After Bertani's death, Bernardino Facciotto continued the works and completed the unification of gardens, squares, loggias, galleries, exedras, and courtyards, giving the Palace its final structure. The



Palazzo del Capitano



Sala del Pisanello (Room of Pisanello)

Ducal Palace is divided into three distinct phases: the Corte Vecchia, with the Sala del Pisanello; the Castello di San Giorgio, featuring the famous Camera degli Sposi by Mantegna, and the Corte Nuova.

CORTE VECCHIA

The entrance to the Ducal Palace is located at Piazza Sordello, where you will find the Palazzo del Capitano and Magna Domus. These two buildings form the Palace's oldest section, known as **Corte Vecchia**. The Palazzo del Capitano was built in the late 13th century by Guido Bonacolsi, also known as Bottesella, who served as the "Captain of the People" of Mantua from 1299 to 1309. The façade of the Captain's Palace features battlements and six Gothic mullioned windows, which replaced the original Romanesque windows in the 14th century. Adjacent to it is the Magna Domus, a smaller building without battlements later converted into the Empress' Apartment in the 1600s, where Beatrice



Domus Nova

d'Este resided. The Magna Domus, also known as Domus Nova, was originally designed by Luca Fancelli and renovated during the reign of Duke Vincenzo I Gonzaga. The Palazzo del Capitano initially had two floors and was separated from Magna Domus by an alley. In the 14th century, a third floor was added to the Captain's Palace, and the two buildings were joined by a 300-meter-long exposed brick façade featuring a portico with pointed arches.

The current Ducal Apartment was created in 1595 by Antonio Maria Viani. The Galleria Nuova was constructed in 1778 by Giuseppe Piermarini to connect the Guastalla apartment to the Ducal Apartment. It houses altarpieces by Francesco Borgani, Carlo Bononi, Spagnoletto, and others. The Sala degli Arcieri has a famous altarpiece by Peter Paul Rubens, depicting the Gonzaga Family in Adoration of the Holy Trinity. The room leads to the Galleria degli Specchi, an open loggia with frescoes and neoclassicist decoration. Under the Duke's Apartment, Cardinal Ferdinand had Viani design the Appartamento dei nani, believed to be for court dwarves, which was a reproduction of the Scala Santa of St. John Lateran for devotional purposes.

In the early 14th century, an additional floor and an imposing arcade connecting the buildings were added. The addition included a sizeable 67×15-meter salon called Dell'Armeria ("Hall of the Weapon Room"), where the Della Dieta 1459 Diet of Mantua was held. The 17th-century Salone delle Duchesse leads to the Room of the Morone, named after Domenico Morone's painting of the Expulsion of the Bonacolsi. The Captain's Palace also includes the First Room of Guastalla, with a fresco frieze of the Gonzaga family, and the unfinished Sala del Pisanello (Room of Pisanello) featuring a majestic cycle of frescoes of Arthurian subjects (in particular, the Battle of Louverzep), aiming to celebrate the glory of the family and the virtues of Gianfrancesco Gonzaga. Pisanello's frescoes were only discovered in the 1960s when, during a restoration project, this marvelous work was found beneath the wall paintings.

In 1519, Isabella d'Este, newly widowed, moved from the Castle of St. George to the older part of the Ducal Palace, known as the "Widow Apartment"



Hall of Mirrors (Sala degli Specchi)

(Appartamento Vedovile). This apartment, consisting of two wings divided by the entrance to the Cortile d'Onore, housed her renowned wooden furnishings and art collections in the Grotto Wing. This wing included significant paintings (now at the Louvre Museum) commissioned to Andrea Mantegna between 1496 and 1506 (Parnassus and The Triumph of Virtue), Lorenzo Costa il Vecchio (Isabella in the realm of Harmony and Realm of Como), Perugino (Fight between Love and Chastity) and Correggio (Allegory of Vice and Virtue). Another famous room in this wing is the Camera Granda or Scalcheria painted by Lorenzo Leombruno in 1522. The Santa Croce Wing featured additional halls like the Sala delle Imprese Isabelliane and Sala Imperiale. In the 16th century, Guglielmo X Gonzaga renovated many of the rooms in Corte Vecchia and built the Refectory overlooking the Giardino Pensile (hanging garden) and the Sala dello Specchio (Hall of Mirrors), which was used as the music room. This room, commissioned by Duke Vincenzo, features mirrors embedded in the walls and frescoes of the Olympus Gods by various artists, including the Bavarian master, Carlo Santner.



The gardens and courtyards in the Palace include the Giardino Pensile, which was where the Gonzaga horses were displayed before being sold.

Another garden, the Giardino dei Semplici or "Garden of Simples," housed medicinal herbs used by the court to perfume their clothes. The Refectory contained a Hanging Garden and later a Coffee House during Austrian rule. The Secret Garden was part of Isabella d'Este's Apartment. The Cortile delle Otto Facce, Cortile del Frambus, Cortile d'Onore, Cortile di Santa Croce, and Cortile dei Cani are different courtyards with unique features.



Court Scene



Castle of St. George

The Castle of St. George (Castello di San Giorgio) was constructed between 1395 and 1406 under the commission of Francesco I Gonzaga. It was designed by Bartolino da Novara, one of the most renowned military architects of the time. The Castle combines Gothic and Renaissance architectural styles, boasting intricate details and elegant design elements. The Castle has a square plan with four corner towers, surrounded by a moat with three entrances, each equipped with a drawbridge. Underground passageways interconnect various parts of the Castle and were utilized for multiple purposes, including secret escapes and storage. In 1459, architect Luca Fancelli, commissioned by Marquis Ludovico III Gonzaga, transformed the Castle into a noble residence for Ludovico II Gonzaga, who moved there during the Council of Mantua called by Pope Pius II to plan a crusade against the Turks. In 1459, Luca Fancelli's restoration marked the transition of the Castle from a military and defensive structure to one with other functions. The splendor of the Castle, however, is the work of the great painter Andrea Mantegna, who painted his most brilliant masterpiece here.

The Camera Picta, also known as the Bridal Chamber, is the most famous room in the Palace. It features stunning frescoes created by Andrea Mantegna between 1465 and 1475. Accessible through a spiral staircase, this square room measures 8.05 meters per side.

The frescoes in the Camera Picta are known for their illusionistic style, creating the perception of a loggia with three openings overlooking country landscapes. The scenes depict members of the Gonzaga family. Notably, these artworks showcase the first use of *trompe l'oeil*, a technique that creates lifelike three-dimensional imagery on flat surfaces using realistic details, perspective, and shading. Mantegna's artwork gives the impression of actual sculptures and architecture.

Northern Wall: Court Scene

Mantegna's Camera degli Sposi highlights include a court scene on the northern wall. Here, Ludovico III, in a pink house coat with his family dog, is interrupted by his advisor whispering in his ear. His wife, Barbara of Brandenburg, looks on with concern while their son, Federico, the heir, stands behind her. To the left is Francesco, their second son, who became a cardinal at 17, and his portrait is now in the Capodimonte Museum in Naples. An attractive woman, Ludovico's daughter, stands to the right, next to her mother and a little girl named Paolina. The scene also includes a court jester and courtiers in colored tights, depicting the royal staff.

Western Wall: The Meeting Scene

Frescoes on the Camera degli Sposi's west wall depict "The Meeting," where Ludovico III greets his son, Cardinal Francesco, returning from Rome. The scene, painted as a garden pavilion with landscape views between archways and pilasters, reads from left to right. At the far left, a dismounted horse highlights the Gonzaga family's prestigious stables. To the right, stewards hold back mastiffs while pilasters create an illusion of a continuous landscape. Above, putti with delicate butterfly wings hold an inscription plate, one of the room's best features. Putti, derived from the Italian word for "boys," are chubby male children, often depicted with wings, frequently seen in Renaissance and Baroque art. These cherubic figures are usually portrayed in playful or innocent poses, symbolizing love, divine presence, or the spirit of the arts. Ludovico and Francesco stand in profile in the final section on the right, symbolizing power, with other ecclesiastics present. This vignette emphasizes the Gonzagas' influence in both



secular and religious spheres. Proud of his work, Mantegna included his self-portrait on a grotesque-style frieze on one of the pillars. On the other two walls (South, from which you enter, and East), Mantegna depicted closed curtains hanging from a painted bar, along with the corbels that support the vault. The bridge of San Giorgio is visible from the east wall window.



Ceiling & Oculus: Seminal Illusionist Work

The oculus, also known as the eye, is an illusionistic opening in the center of the ceiling. It is the most celebrated feature of the Camera degli Sposi as it appears to open to a blue sky. Mantegna's masterful use of foreshortening creates a striking illusion of depth. The balustrade is painted to resemble marble and is adorned with a garland, representing the heavenly interest in the Gonzaga family. The fresco also features smiling and giggling little winged putti (cherubs), servants, and a peacock leaning over a railing. In addition, a large floral plant is precariously perched on a pole, suggesting imminent chaos. The figures in the illusion look down on the viewer from a cloud-flecked blue sky. The roundels feature monochrome medallions of the first eight Roman emperors, from Julius Caesar to Otho. They seem like reliefs, but they're not. The emperors gaze directly at you. Their titles encircle the edge in a similar way to a coin. Unique for the 15th century, Mantegna's oculus



combines precision in foreshortening with playful figures, inspiring subsequent ceiling artworks, including the Sistine Chapel. In addition to the Camera degli Sposi, the Castle houses other frescoes and artworks that depict historical events and the Gonzaga family's legacy.

THE PASSING OF OUR CHARTER MEMBER

BY FRANK ZEOLI

It's with a heavy heart we announce the passing of Charter Member, Maria "Sandrina" DeNitto. Maria's vision, dedication, and countless hours of service helped build the foundation of our club.

Her love for our Italian heritage, her commitment to our club, and her unwavering belief in the mission of the IACC inspired generations of members. Through her leadership, volunteerism, and welcoming spirit, she helped foster a place where Italian traditions, culture, family, and friendship continue to thrive. She touched each individual who crossed her path and never failed to make them feel welcome.

Because of her countless efforts, our mission to celebrate, preserve, and share our rich Italian heritage remains stronger than ever. Her legacy lives on in every event we host, every tradition we pass on, and every new member who walks through our doors.

If you knew Sandrina, you knew that for her food was never just food, it was love. Every recipe had a story, and every story began with her grandmother. I can't count the number of Friday nights at the Pavilion when someone would suggest making something a certain way, only to hear her tell them, once again, how her grandmother called her over to the stove at seven years old, saying, "Vieni ca" "Come here," and taught her how to cook by standing right beside her.

She never measured anything. She'd simply smile and say, "I just do it the way my grandmother taught me." And heaven help you if you tried to change one of those recipes.

I remember telling her I used garlic and onions together in a dish, and she'd wag that finger back and forth with that unmistakable look that said, "No way." She would remind me, "Neapolitans don't do that." I'd tease her by saying I was half Calabrese, and without missing a beat she'd reply, "But the Neapolitan side balances you out."

That was Sandrina. She could correct you, tease you, and make you laugh all in the same sentence.

She had little expressions that became part of who she was. If I shared an opinion she agreed with, she'd smile and say, "You think." If I asked, "What if we do it this way?" she'd simply say, "No problem."

Her kindness reached far beyond the kitchen. When a little child walked into the store, she'd ask if they wanted a dinner roll. It was such a small gesture, but it perfectly captured



who she was. She had a gift for making everyone feel welcome. Whether you had known her for fifty years or five minutes, you left feeling like family. That's what she did. She built family. Not just through blood, but through kindness, generosity, tradition, and love.

It's hard to imagine the Italian American Community Center without her. There isn't a corner of this club that doesn't have a Sandrina touch. She gave over five decades of her life to the place. She didn't just help build a building; she helped build a community. Every Friday night at the Pavilion, every celebration, every meal, every tradition — we will see her fingerprints everywhere.

For many of us it's going to be difficult to move forward without her guidance, her approval, and even her criticism.

Sandrina, thank you for helping build a club that will endure for generations. You will always be a treasured part of the Italian American Community Center family.

Riposa in Pace.

BY JOE SANO

CHOCOLATES, RABBITS AND FASHION

The Luisa Spagnoli Story



You may have never heard of her. Yet she was one of Italy's leading entrepreneurs of the 20th century. Her name - Luisa Spagnoli. She is known as the Queen of Chocolate, but her story involves both candy, rabbits and fashion.

It started at a candy factory owned by her husband, Annibale, along with Francesco Buitoni, Lene Ascoli, and Francesco Andreani. The little company, Perugina, decided to start a new product line, pastel-colored candy-coated almonds called "confetti." A little pouch or box of "confetti" became a staple at Italian weddings as a parting gift for the attendees.

As she strolled through the workplace, she was shocked by the scraps of almonds and hazelnuts littering the worktables. She thought, "How wasteful!" She

gathered up the nut scraps, mixed them with chocolate in a cylinder and called it cazzotti or punches. Not a very loving name for a candy and the size and shape was a bit odd as well. So, in 1922 Luisa experimented with an idea. She cut off smaller pieces from the chocolate tube and wrapped them in foil. She preferred the taste of hazelnuts, and this led to Baci kisses being born.

Milton Hershey introduced milk chocolate Hershey kisses in 1907 and while a large success in the USA, it was not well known in Italy. The Baci



kiss looked similar to the Hershey kiss but with a couple of twists. Spagnoli's creation mixed the melted dark chocolate with hazelnut scraps to create a creamy hazelnut praline filling with a whole roasted hazelnut on top. She finished it in a blue and white foil wrapper, but it was not quite done. Legend has it that the little printed love notes inside the Baci candy began when Luisa added handwritten love notes to the candy that she gave to her husband's partner Buitoni (yes, he is the pasta man). No judgement - just the legend.

These notes/scrolls remain part of the little candy's mystique. Over 1.5 million Baci are produced daily. It is interesting that the Perugina company touts the health benefits of the Baci - lowers cholesterol and blood pressure and yields good fats and proteins. Seeking an expanding market the company decided to introduce a green pistachio version of the Baci. It failed miserably and was yanked off the market. One company tour highlight is the "Baci One" a Guinness record holding Baci weighing in at over 13,500 pounds. Rossana, a hard candy by Perugina which is a staple for any Italian's candy dish, is another product she helped create. Nestle's Ltd now owns the Perugina brand and production is centered in San Sisto, Italy.



Luisa, however, was not content to be just in the candy business. She loved fashion and, as we have already seen, innovation. She helped develop a process for extracting the angora fur from rabbits without harming them. Her angora products rivaled the cashmere products that were the craze in the 1920s. This more ethical treatment of animals was years ahead of its time. The fur was woven into articles of clothing that she designed. Her fashion house employed both men and women and offered childcare, overtime and a modest retirement option to its workers. The Spagnoli angora yarn became world famous as well as the special patented comb used to extract the hair. She again was ahead of her time. Luisa died prematurely in 1937, and her son Mario took over the fashion house. As the

Second World War ended, he expanded the brand from knitwear to a line of affordable high fashion. Boutiques were established in all the major Italian cities. Lino Spagnoli took over the leadership of the brand in 1960. Such notable women of that era, Sophia Loren, Zsa Zsa Gabor and Ester Williams, championed the label. Upon Lino's passing in 1986, his children Nicoletta and Mario took over. Nicoletta, Luisa's great granddaughter, now runs the company and remains focused on growing the brand to over 200 stores while incorporating modern design and youthful styles that are affordable and also turning a family brand into an internationally recognized fashion label. English royalty has often embraced the LS brand. The clothes remain designed and manufactured in the Umbria region of Italy. □



2026 IACC SWIMMING POOL SCHEDULE
 POOL PHONE 518-250-4511 (TO CHECK CONDITIONS)
 MEMBERS MUST HAVE THEIR MEMBERSHIP CARD
 AVAILABLE WHILE AT THE POOL

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

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

Noon – 8:00 p.m. | 10 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Noon – 5:00 p.m. | Noon – 8:00 p.m.
 Lap swim 7:30 - 9:30 am



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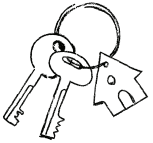
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Sunday Brunch

Sunday, August 9, 2026

\$25.00 (adults)

\$15.00 (children)

11:00am to 3:00pm

Menu:

Scrambled Eggs

Smoked Bacon

Home Fries

Cinnamon French Toast

Assorted Breakfast Pastries

Penne Ala Vodka

Seasonal Vegetable Medley

Parmesan Encrusted Chicken

Deluxe Salad Bar

Dinner Rolls

Proceeds Benefit the



Reservations Required

518-456-4222 or visit

www.italianamerican.com

From 10:00am - 4:00pm

WELCOME

new members

Kelly & Adam McGuire
Sarah Kampf
Joseph & Diane Vetrone
Mark DeCicco
Vicky & Jerry Lockman
Gail & Danny Goodnough
Michelle & David Sebastianelli
Daniela Caschera
Elsa Caschera

CARING & SHARING

Dino Barbato	Janice Garavelli	Sergio Panunzio
Allison Barranca	Angela Groelz Sislowksi	Loretta Parsons
Daniel Ciampino	Dennis Guyon	Vincent Rossi
Michael Connelly	Michael Keegan	Ginger Ruiz-Evans
Joseph Cunningham	Maria LaMorte	Marylou Schiro
Sally D'Agostino	Charlotte Lombardo	Debbie Simoni
Rina D'Aurizio	Guy Maddalone	Paul Spadafora
Michael Elmendorf	Richard Mazzaferro, Sr.	George Urciuoli
Thomas Federici	Theresa Nowicki	Steve Wunsch
Susan Ferrara	Maria Antonietta Paddock	Donna Zumbo
	Stanley Paddock	

AUGUST Birthdays

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

As many of you know our July meeting was canceled following the unexpected passing of our beloved friend, Women's League Vice President and IACC charter member, Maria (Sandrina) DeNitto. For those who knew her, she was a woman of warmth, strength, and unwavering love. She had a way of making people feel like family, whether they had known her for years or had just met her. Her kindness, smile and welcoming spirit left a lasting impression on those whose lives she touched. As a charter member, she understood how important it was to preserve our heritage and create a place where Italian traditions, food and friendships could flourish. Because of her vision and dedication, generations have enjoyed a community that felt like an extended family.

For so many of us, Friday nights at the Pavilion during the summer months will forever bring back memories of Maria. Those evenings are more than weekly gatherings, they are celebrations of family, friendship, laughter and culture. Maria helped to make those nights special, whether she was overseeing activities in the kitchen, greeting people, sharing stories or simply being surrounded by the people she loved. Her presence brought warmth and joy. The pavilion won't feel quite the same without her, but every Friday night will carry a piece of her spirit.

There is a saying that when the matriarch of an Italian family passes, we don't just lose a person - we lose the keeper of traditions, our stories, our recipes, our history and a part of our future. She is the one who holds the generations together, who

remembers where we came from and who quietly teaches us who we are. With Maria's passing, it may feel like a chapter has closed and our hearts are heavy with sorrow, but they are also filled with gratitude. We were fortunate enough to have known her, blessed by her friendship and her example of a life well lived. Our future now rests in carrying forward all that she cherished. As long as we continue to live by that example, her spirit will always remain with us and in that way, she is never truly gone. Her legacy will continue to inspire us. Our love, thoughts and heartfelt condolences remain with her family, Luigi, Mimmo and Anna Rita.

Although we were unable to gather in July, we will resume our monthly meetings on Wednesday, August 12th, at 6pm in the Pavilion. If the weather is too hot and humid, we will move our meeting to the Caruso Room. That evening we will be having a potluck dinner. Please call Mary Lou Marando at (518) 482-8276 by Monday, August 10th, to make your reservation and to let us know what type of dish you are bringing (think cool and refreshing).

May everyone enjoy this last month of summer, and I hope to see you all at Ferragosto on August 15th where there will be an abundance of food, fun and friends. Don't forget, the night will end with the largest bonfire in Albany!!

Georgeann Greene
President



Mangia Bene E Vivi Bene!

By FRANK ZEOLI



Spaghetti al Pomodoro



PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES | COOK TIME: 20 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS

- 3 tablespoons of extra virgin olive oil
- 4-6 cloves of fresh garlic (chopped)
- 1 lb. of cherry tomatoes (cut in half)
- Fresh basil leaves (roughly chopped)
- 3 tablespoons of fresh parsley (chopped)
- ½ teaspoon of kosher salt
- 1 lb. of spaghetti or bucatini

Few dishes capture the heart of Italian cooking quite like **Spaghetti al Pomodoro** or sometimes referred to as Spaghetti All Napoletana. Simple, fresh, and full of flavor, this timeless recipe proves that the best meals often come from just a handful of quality ingredients. Sweet, ripe tomatoes, fragrant garlic, extra virgin olive oil, fresh basil, and perfectly cooked pasta come together to create a dish that is both comforting and elegant. Whether you're preparing a quick weeknight dinner or sharing a meal with family and friends, **Spaghetti al Pomodoro** is a celebration of authentic Italian tradition. With every bite, you'll enjoy the bright flavors of the tomatoes, the aroma of fresh herbs, and the satisfaction of a classic recipe that has been loved for generations.



INSTRUCTIONS

In a large sauté pan, add the olive oil, chopped garlic, and half of the fresh chopped basil and sauté over moderate heat until lightly golden brown. Don't burn the garlic.

Add the tomatoes and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. When the tomatoes are roasted, blistered, and squishy, add the salt and chopped parsley.

While the tomatoes are cooking in the pan, bring a pot of salted water to a boil to cook the pasta. Boil the spaghetti until al dente.

Using a pasta ladle, add the spaghetti to the sauce and mix until evenly combined. Add a splash of pasta water to allow the sauce to bind to the pasta.

Add the remaining chopped basil and a generous helping of grated Pecorino Romano cheese and toss well. Adjust the salt if needed. Serve immediately.



Look for more recipes in the next edition of the **SIAMO QUI**

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