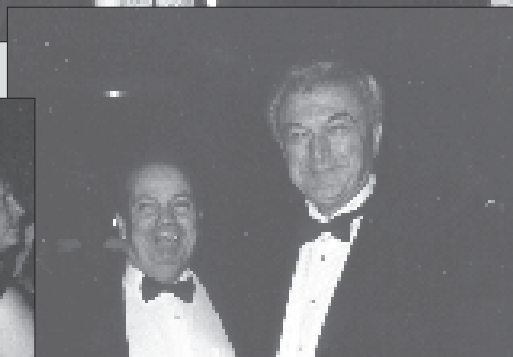
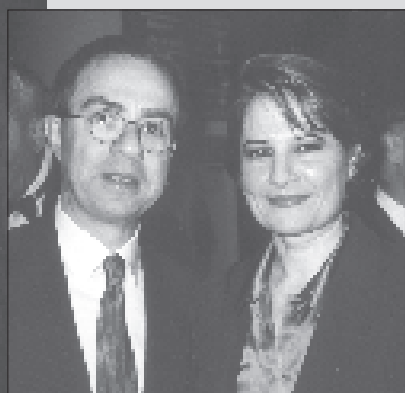
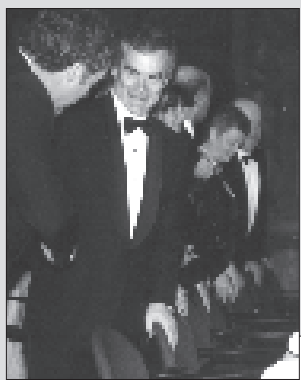
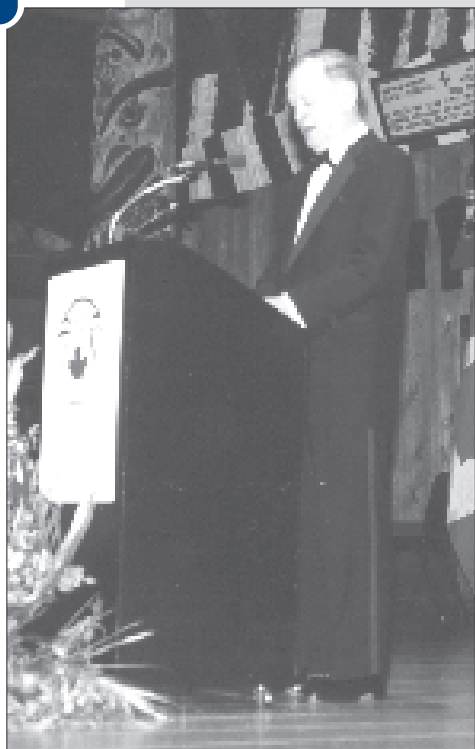


IL POSTINO

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4 ~ JANUARY 2001



CUSTOMER NUMBER: 04564405
PUBLICATION AGREEMENT NUMBER: 1835041

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Special thanks to

Francesco Lorrigio and Italo Tiezzi

Next Deadline

January 19, 2000

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Il Postino is a publication supported by its advertisers and sale of the issues. It is published monthly. The opinions and ideas expressed in the articles are not necessarily those held by *Il Postino*.

Subscription rates

In Canada \$20 (includes GST) per year. Foreign \$38 per year.

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Celebrazione del giubileo di vita religiosa di Suor Liliana Armenti

di YOLANDA LONDERO

Le suore dell'Addolorata Serve di Maria della nostra parrocchia hanno avuto il privilegio e la gioia di celebrare il cinquantenario anniversario di vita religiosa di Suor Liliana Armenti domenica 26 novembre scorso.

Suor Liliana entrò in religione ad Isernia all'età di 17 anni. Fece il noviziato a Nocera, Salerno. Nel 1961 fu trasferita ad Ottawa dove vi rimase fino al 1991, anno in cui accettò di prestare servizio nella missione del Messico. Nella nostra città Suor Liliana è ritornata pochi mesi fa, questa volta per rimanervi.

L'occasione del suo giubileo, avvenuto, come si è detto, il 26 novembre scorso, festa di Cristo Re, è stata onorata con una messa alla chiesa di Sant'Antonio. Hanno concelebrato il Parroco P. Paolo McKeown, l'ex Parroco P. Marcello Brodeur, il Padre Provinciale dei Servi di Maria P. Gaetan Proulx e tutti i padri di Sant'Antonio. Erano presenti Suor Rosanna Lalli, Assistente Delegata della Madre Superiore Generale della Congregazione, venuta dall'Italia per l'evento, e le suore consorelle di Suor Liliana, le Suore Serve di Maria (Cuve-London) Sr. M. Lawrence e Sr. M.

Rosa. La corale parrocchiale, con la soloista Angela DiCastro, che ha cantato l' "Ave Maria" e "Panis Angelicus", ha reso la cerimonia più solenne.

Al termine della messa i parrocchiani presenti hanno circondato Suor Liliana per felicitarla e farle gli auguri. Gli amici della festeggiata sono stati invitati ad un pranzo che ha avuto luogo alla Sala San Marco subito dopo. Il signor Angelo Licari ha accettato di fungere da maestro di cerimonia, eseguendo egregiamente il suo compito nella presentazione dei parenti di Suor Liliana e della persone di rilievo.

Alla fine del pranzo Suor Liliana ha ringraziato ed ha distribuito a tutti un'immagine ricordo e un'effigie della fondatrice dell'Ordine su una piccola ma graziosa montatura. Suor Liliana serberà certamente un caro ricordo di questo avvenimento, come anche noi che vi abbiamo partecipato. Le auguriamo ancora tanti anni operosi nella vigna del Signore.

Non possiamo omettere di felicitare gli organizzatori e i cuochi che hanno preparato il pranzo, poiché i cibi erano ottimi e tutto si è svolto alla perfezione.



Above: Suor Rosetta e Suor Rosanna Lalli

Right: Padre Tim, Padre Paul McKeown e Suor Liliana

Below: Rina Filoso, Peter Scott, Suor Liliana, Lena Buffone e Gino Buffone



PHOTOS: ANGELO FILOSO

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HAPPY NEW YEAR
BONNE ANNÉE
FELICE ANNO NUOVO

Community / Comunità

The 2000 Canadian Italian National Awards

by LAURA D'AMELIO

Maybe it was the backdrop of Native artwork, or the grand hall it took place in, but the first annual Canadian Italian National Awards was a sight to behold. Held at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, Quebec, the event was a celebration that spared no expense.

Beyond the grandeur of it all, the recognition of the efforts of Canadian-Italians (or Italian-Canadians, if you prefer), was the focus. Hosted by Villa Marconi, this was the first year for the awards and over 500 attended the festivities. The ceremony honoured eight prominent Canadian-Italians, ranging from opera singers to businessmen, community leaders and award winners.

Prime Minister Chrétien was in attendance, along with Sheila Copps and other prestigious guests, but the media's flashing lights and the audience's applause sought only one thing: the celebration of Italians in Canada. Of the various political and community leaders that spoke to the audience, many commemorated the accomplishments of the Italian community in Canada as a whole and recognized their substantial place in Canadian history.

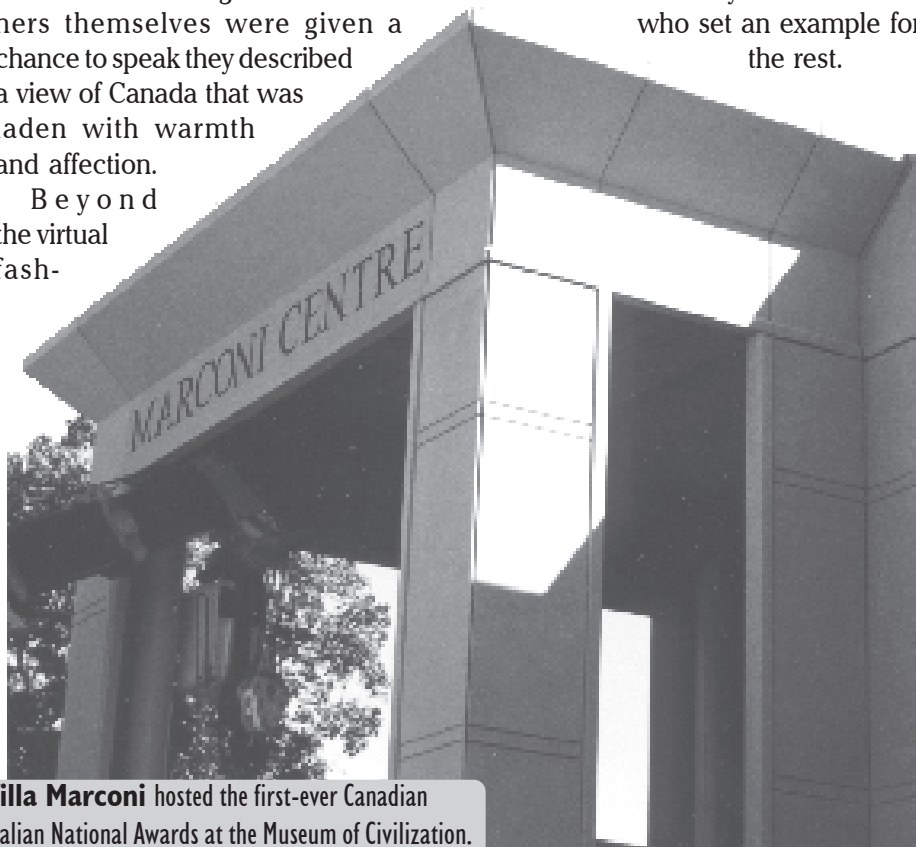
Even the prime minister tried his hand at a little Italian, "Tanti Auguri" he attempted to pronounce with a little less than precision, but the effort was appreciated.

Each winner was given a proper introduction and presented with a gold medal mounted on a red plaque, framed for finishing. When the winners themselves were given a chance to speak they described a view of Canada that was laden with warmth and affection.

Beyond the virtual fashion show and conversations of politics,

there is a realization that Italians have been a strong force in the advancement of the social, cultural and, as many successful businessmen would point out, economic aspects of Canadian life.

So on that night, a tribute was paid to those exceptional members of the Italian community across Canada who set an example for the rest.



Villa Marconi hosted the first-ever Canadian Italian National Awards at the Museum of Civilization.

Millennium 2000 winner

by COLIN DONELLE

Nello Bortolotti is more than deserving of the praise attributed to him by Nepean Councilor Lee Farnworth. He was honoured at the final installment of the Millennium 2000 medals on November 24.

Bortolotti has long been a promoter of the Italian community, acting to support its culture in a variety of fields. "He is or has been on almost every Italian group or association in the area," Farnworth said.

Among numerous other positions, Bortolotti has served on the board of the National Congress of Italian Canadians, the Italian Week Organizing Committee, and the Italian-Canadian Community Centre Association. He was also national president of the Order of Italo-Canadians and one of the founding members of Villa Marconi, a long-term care centre for seniors.

"I've only tried to make this a better place for everyone to live," he explained. He was surprised and honoured by the award, and is hopeful that there will be more occasions to honour the others that have given their time as well.



Nello Bortolotti receives his Millennium 2000 medal from Nepean mayor Mary Pitt and councillor Lee Farnworth.

The Millennium 2000 medals were given out in various installments throughout the year to pay respect to those that

have volunteered within the community. Twenty others were honoured along with Bortolotti at the last ceremony.

The honourees

Dominic D'Alessandro. Born in Molise, Italy, Dominic has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Manulife Financial as well as the Laurentian Bank of Canada. Through his work he has supported the community through sponsorships and donations and has been on the boards of various campaigns. He has been recognized through numerous awards and honorary doctorates from various Canadian universities.

Alfredo De Gasperis. After arriving from Sora, Italy, Alfredo and his brothers began a company with little more than a shovel and a wheelbarrow. Now Con-Drain Company Limited is the largest sewer and water main construction company in Ontario, employing more than 1,000 people.

The Honourable Justice Frank Iacobucci. A Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, this Vancouver native is the first Canadian of Italian ancestry to be appointed to the Court. At the University of Toronto he worked as Professor, Dean, Vice President and Provost and worked his way up through the legal system while donating much of his time to legal, academic, historical and cultural associations.

Enrico Mancinelli. Born in Corbellino, Italy, and settling in Hamilton, Ontario, he joined the Labourers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) and quickly rose through the ranks. Currently Director and Vice President of LIUNA, he has also founded the New Canadian Club, was instrumental in the creation of a non-profit organization to build affordable housing for seniors, low-income earners and handicapped individuals, and has been active in the Italian community and the National Congress of Italian-Canadians.

Arthur V. Mauro. Currently Chancellor of the University of Manitoba, Arthur has practiced law and been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Investors Group and Chairman of the Royal Commission on Northern Transportation. His civic activities have included being involved in the arts, charities, economic development organizations, universities and sports organizations, all of which have earned him much recognition.

Maria Pellegrini. Born in Pescara, Italy, Maria has become an international Opera star beginning with her debut with the Canadian Opera Company. Performing around the world, Maria has been crowned "Primo Soprano" and has received many awards honouring her talents.

Emanuele (Lino) Saputo. Born in Palermo, Italy, Lino's parents were master cheesemakers who, once in Canada, founded a company whose initial production was 10 kilograms of mozzarella a day. Today through growth and appropriation of other companies, Saputo sales are approaching the \$2 billion mark.

Anna Marina Terrana. As the first western Canadian of Italian origin to be elected to the House of Commons, Anna served her riding from 1993 to 1997. Born in Torino, Italy and a member of the Liberal Party, Anna has been recognized both in Canada and Italy for her contributions to the Italian community and outside it.



PHOTOS: ANGELO FILOSO

Opinions / Opinione

I posti poco conosciuti

La Fontana delle Tartarughe

di Zeljka Gaspar

A Roma, nel centro della bellissima Piazza Mattei che una volta era il cuore dell'ex Ghetto Ebraico, si trova la *Fontana delle Tartarughe*. Nelle vicinanze del Teatro di Marcello e dell'ultimo dei cinque palazzi costruiti per la famiglia Mattei questa mirabile fontana era il più bel pezzo d'arte che ho visto a Roma.

E ho visto molto, ma veramente molto quando come studentessa dell'Università di Zagabria sei anni fa ero in visita alla città 'eterna' con una cinquantina di altri studenti. Siamo arrivati in una mattina che nasceva con la voglia di assaporare il più possibile i secoli di storia ritornando a casa dieci giorni dopo con la sensazione che prova il pescatore tornando a casa con la sacca piena. Eravamo come scatole cariche di gioielli. Siccome il nostro era un viaggio di ricerca avevamo il privilegio di visitare i posti che agli altri turisti non erano permessi. Per non perdere tempo pranzavamo nelle vicinanze dei numerosi monumenti di Roma ascoltando le storie legate ad essi. Così, un giorno, mentre mangiavamo di fronte alla *Fontana dei Draghi* della Villa d'Este, sentivamo le storie delle alterne vicende del Cardinale Ippolito d'Este che ha iniziato il sontuoso edificio. Un altro giorno, discutevamo del secondo frontone triangolare del Pantheon che si poteva vedere solamente da quella stradina stretta stretta sulla quale eravamo seduti.

Tra le meraviglie di Roma che posso

far rivivere in ogni momento della mia vita sono le sorgenti del Tevere dove "nasce il fiume sacro per i destini di Roma", l'antica Via Appia e la suggestiva chiesetta del "Domine quo vadis" su di essa; il Carcere Mamertino nelle quali profondità venivano gettati i prigionieri condannati a morte che poi venivano decapitati o strangolati; i fragranti prati verdi della Villa di Adriano; i Musei Vaticani e la statua di Traiano, con la quale abbiamo speso 3 buone ore analizzando ogni piccolo dettaglio sull'armatura dell'imperatore. Ricordo anche gli occhi della Sibilla Delfica nella Cappella Sistina, le catacombe cristiane dell'antica Roma, la "Bocca della Verità" che ha spaventato la piccola principessa (Audrey Hepbern) nel film "Vacanze romane" e Piazza di Spagna che in questo periodo raggiungeva il momento di colorazione floreale e nella quale mangiavamo i panini bianchi con mozzarella e pomodori immaginando che proprio quel tipo di panini era adatto all'atmosfera *bohémien* di quel nucleo artistico. Poi, ho nella memoria il Colosseo, simbolo della città 'eterna', di fronte al quale alcuni ragazzi ci hanno rubato alcune macchine fotografiche dopo aver preso le foto di noi con le stesse.

Ricordo bene anche le nostre visite notturne. Quasi ogni notte andavamo in un posto 'speciale' la cui atmosfera si poteva vivere soltanto nel cuore della notte. Non dimenticherò mai la faccia stupita del nostro 'povero' autista che si doveva svegliare alle 2.30 del mattino per portarci nel quartiere rosso perchè "senza vederlo uno non può dire che è stato a Roma!" o

di contemplare le taglienti e nere ombre delle gigantesche statue di marmo del quartiere fascista.

La più bella per me, invece, è stata la visita a Piazza Mattei nel cui centro sta la meravigliosa *Fontana delle Tartarughe*. Sì, caro lettore, ho visto anche le altre fontane di Roma, ma nemmeno una di esse ha toccato la mia anima allo stesso modo di quella di Piazza Mattei.

Il cammino tra le tipiche strade romane che precedeva la visita di quel gioiello d'arte mi ha fatto ricordare Orvieto e la meravigliosa cattedrale che appare all'improvviso di fronte agli occhi di uno che, dopo di aver attraversato un po' di ombrosa strada che porta alla cattedrale, aspettava tutto ma non quella lava di luce celeste che gli stava di fronte. A differenza del Duomo di Orvieto, che sembra opera di mani divine, la Fontana delle Tartarughe sembra un semplice lavoro d'arte umana. La straordinaria fontana fu realizzata tra 1581-1584 dall'architetto e scultore fiorentino Taddeo Landini su disegno di Giacomo della Porta, un discepolo e seguace di Michelangelo. Le tartarughe, invece, furono modellate da Gianlorenzo Bernini un secolo dopo.

Esiste una leggenda legata a questa fontana che dice così:

si narra che uno dei giovani figli della famiglia Mattei portò alla costruzione di questo squisito capolavoro. Del rifiuto del padre di una graziosa fanciulla, di dare la mano della figlia a questo giovane rampollo dei Mattei, con il pretesto che quello era sì nobile, ma squattrinato. Il giovane, di ombroso carattere, mise in atto

la sua vendetta. Indita una grande festa nel suo palazzo, invitò il severo genitore a partecipare intrattenendolo con estrema cortesia fino alle prime luci dell'alba, allorché il giovane Mattei condusse il caparbio ospite ad una finestra del palazzo che dà sulla piazza, per fargli ravvivare lo spirito con la fresca aria mattutina. Grande fu lo stupore dell'ospite nel vedere al centro della piazza una fontana che non ci era la sera precedente, la Fontana delle Tartarughe. Alle esclamazioni di meraviglia di costui, il giovane, fiero e soddisfatto della reazione suscitata, gli fece notare di cosa fosse capace un Mattei nel breve svolgere di una notte, senza possedere una grande fortuna. Il giovane aggiunse che nessuno avrebbe più ammirato la fontana da quella finestra e la fece murare.

Non so ancora esattamente che cos'era che mi ha fatto inammorare di questa fontana. Forse è stata quella storiellina soffusa dal tono di leggenda che ci è stata raccontata quel pomeriggio; forse il profumo delle strade appena bagnate e la brillantezza delle goccioline di pioggia passata che cadevano dalle tartarughe in forma di perle; forse la melodia di *Rhapsody in blue* di Gershwin che fu sonata su un pianoforte e che veniva da uno degli antichi palazzi che facevano corona alla preziosa fontana; forse il fatto che non ci erano i turisti... Forse tutto questo insieme. Ma, alla fin fine, "non è bello ciò che è bello ma è bello ciò che piace".

Forza Italia...Pius!!

par CHIARA MINGARELLI

J'ai récemment eu le plaisir de m'asseoir avec l'équipe de soccer de l'école secondaire St-Pius X. Je leur ai parlé de leur joute finale contre l'école Lester B. Pearson, et de leur saison exceptionnelle.

Je me suis demandé qu'est-ce qui est requise pour avoir un record comme le leur. Joe Togano répond: "Des heures d'entraînement mentale." Cette réponse est acceptée par le reste de l'équipe. Je leur demande ensuite qui sont leurs idoles. Chacun répond différemment, mais avec conviction égale: Michele

Lapore (*gardien de but*) dit Fabio Cannavaro; Pas Leonardo De Socio, son idole est Roberto Baggio.

Durant la joute contre Lester B. Pearson, plusieurs personnes ont remarqué une parallèle avec la joute de l'Italie contre la France, durant les Euro 1998: après une joute dominée par Pius, chaque école compte un but. L'arbitre a pris des décisions controversées, qui ont favorisé 3/4 l'équipe opposée. Durant les dernières minutes, qui ont été ajoutées pour une raison mystérieuse, Lester B. Pearson compte un but. "Nos coeurs sont brisées," dit Michele Amato, un étudiant qui est venu à la partie. Un silence

envahi l'air après la partie. Roberto Ferrante, le joueur qui a compté le seul but pour Pius, dit: "Je crois que nous avons dominé la partie—c'était une partie difficile."

Terminant, je voudrais noter que tous les joueurs de l'équipe de soccer à Pius sont d'origine italienne, sauf trois. Les gars voudraient remercier Roberto Ferrante pour ses mots d'encouragement avant la partie, et leurs pensées sont avec un joueur qui est partie cette année pour aller jouer en Europe: Mike Ocslong. Même si vous n'avez pas gagné cette partie, les coeurs des étudiants à Pius sont avec vous. Il y a toujours l'année prochaine, et toute la gloire des Azzurri sera avec vous ragazzi!

Community / Comunità

Refurbished conference room honours St. Pat's High

by LAURA D'AMELIO

St. Patrick's High School celebrated the opening of a conference room dedicated to the history of the school with a gathering of alumni and current staff on November 27.

Current vice principal Peter Atkinson explained the room. "It goes in chronological order," he said. "First the original campus, then the war dead, through the 60s and 70s and today's new campus with pictures from the last yearbook." Truly, the room is a time machine for the school.

Pictures and sketches of St. Pat's original campus, now Immacolata High, are flanked by paintings of past students and of trees and books. The colour themes change as the walls transform into memorials for those lost in the war and soon after, rows of graduate's photos hang proudly. The final wall of the room is in bright colours and depicts the school's current campus and atmosphere. The chronicle of the transformation of this institution has served both the community and school well and functions as a remembrance of those who have gone before.

Guests brought memorabilia of this long-standing school including old yearbooks, sheet music of the original school song and copies of the Shillelagh, the school's first newspaper. Also, there were papers and books from the last reunion.

Joe Mullally, principal, noted that the room was painted by students under the direction of teachers with the intention to capture the history of St. Pat's as a daily reminder to the school. "This school has a long and rich history. The people in attendance today are familiar with the tradition and legacy of St. Pats to the community," he said.

Guests included alumni, past winners of the Silvio Tiezzi Memorial Trophy, school staff and local officials. Guests mingled and chatted about memories, the community, traditions and politics. There was a sense of familiarity and brotherhood about the event, an atmosphere that can only be created with the recognition of a long and varied past.

The room also holds the Silvio Tiezzi Memorial Trophy which was given to a deserving senior student each year. On behalf of the Eastern Ontario Italian Canadian Charitable Foundation, Angelo Filoso and Italo Tiezzi presented Mullally with a cheque of \$500 in support of St. Pats and maintaining the award. St. Pats staff and former winners were delighted by the generosity of the group.



Above: Past winners of the Silvio Tiezzi Memorial Trophy.

Below: Rina Filoso, Joe Mullaly, Angelo Filoso and Italo Tiezzi.



PHOTOS: LAURA D'AMELIO

Memories / Ricordi

Natale di un vecchio emigrato

di GIOSAFAT MINGARELLI
(1910-1999)

A 360 m. sul livello del mare, venendo da Fabriano in autobus, Valtreara, una delle tante frazioncine del comune di Genga nell'anconitano ammantata di neve con le sue case di pietra bianca e rosa ha l'aspetto di un grande presepe che il più geniale degli ingegneri avesse mai progettato e costruito ai piedi della montagna. Anche d'estate a chi si avventurasse lassai piedi del monte Rovellone dava la stessa impressione. Ma d'inverno a Natale quando i tetti e le strade erano coperte di neve, quando il pullman arrancava faticosamente per raggiungere il largo dinanzi alla vecchia torre, la suggestione era ancora maggiore. Manco da tanti anni; un arco lungo di tempo nel corso del quale sono avvenute tante cose. Mi è stato detto che l'urbanistica ha fatto il suo ingresso anche lassù, che il piano regolatore ha

alterato in un certo modo la fisionomia che conosco e che mi è cara; che sono state costruite altre case con bagni e termosifoni all'interno. Ma a me non interessano. Io mi sono sempre portato nel cuore quell'immagine vecchia: i camini di mattoni o di cemento dai quali uscivano un fumo azzurrognolo, i focolari nei quali si facevano bruciare grossi ceppi di quercia che scoppiettavano allegramente. Così quando voglio ricordare, mi basta soltanto concentrarmi e rivedere ogni cosa, ogni persona nitidamente.

Per chi va via tutto rimane al suo posto; nessuno muore, niente cambia. Valtreara ha sempre la forma di un presepio; a Natale c'è sempre la neve, nei focolari ardono ancora i ceppi di quercia. E' una parte di tempo e di spazio che si è fermata indelebilmente in me, che non scomparirà mai. Continuerò sempre a ricordare allo stesso modo. Il Natale laggiù, di quegli anni è certamente diverso da quello che vi si celebra oggi. Il

progresso ha raggiunto ogni angolo d'Italia e vi ha portato un certo benessere. E' logico quindi che tutto sia diverso dopo tanti anni. Gli alberi di Natale non esistevano. A me come a tanti altri fanciulli della mia età bastavano i piccoli presepi che costruivamo con le nostre mani, modellando il cartone, disponendo il muschio raccolto nei campi, la ghiaia, un pezzo di vetro che veniva collocato su una superficie piana e che dava l'impressione d'un pozzo.

Quante piccole cose si facevano allora. Molti avranno dimenticato. Succede sempre quando si resta in un posto e si assiste progressivamente ad un cambiamento economico. Ma per chi va via non è così. Egli si porta nel cuore, ogni particolare, ogni ricordo, ogni volto, ogni suono, ogni voce. E' una massa unica che non si può dimenticare, che resta sempre ferma come fissata con chiodi giganteschi e nello stesso tempo invisibili. Mi svegliava l'odore delle frappe, del castagnaccio ripieno d'uva passa

preparati la sera della vigilia da mia madre. Un odore che riempiva tutta la casa, che penetrava nelle narici come il più delicato dei profumi. La mattinata si passava dalla messa ad un'abitazione all'altra tra strette di mano ed auguri. Dopo pranzo ci si raccoglieva intorno al tavolo di qualche amico a giocare a tombola o si usciva sulla strada pigiandosi o abbandonandosi al pettegolezzo dinanzi alle due osterie. Qui si facevano esplodere le bombe di carta.

Rivedo ogni volto, ogni forma, ogni contorno. Risento ancora nelle orecchie e nel cuore quella parola che veniva ripetuta senza stancarsi, ininterrottamente: AUGURI. AUGURI, una parola breve che ho imparato a pronunciare in un'altra lingua. Ma tante volte mi chiedo dove siano finiti quei volti, quel mondo che mi apparteneva, che era soltanto mio.

Christmas around the world 'a splendid mixture of diversity and union'

by COLIN DONELLE

It is the rich mosaic of Canadian culture that has long put us on the forefront of racial diversity. Within Canada one finds the ability to interact with others as well as retain that which makes them culturally unique.

In honour of this diversity, Villa Marconi hosted "Christmas Around The World" on December 10. The concert was filled to capacity.

Host and organizer Kapsalis Costo has been involved with the performance for three years now. Spurred on by a love of music, his joy for the event is unabashed.

"It leaves you with a sense of celebration and participation," he explained.

Many of the 200 guests were drawn to the evening by the international flavour of the music. The concert featured performances by soprano Shawne Elizabeth, tenor George Valettas, The Finnish Singers, Sandra Kelly on piano and Jeanne Kelly on flute.

Some of the performance highlights were Panis Angelicus, performed by Elizabeth and Valettas, Joulun Kellot (Christmas Bells), performed by the Finnish Singers and the closing arrangement of Silent Night in German, Italian, Greek, Finnish, French and English.

Its success in reflecting the diversity of our country through music was reflected in the sentiments of many in the audience.

"It's a reflection on the best part of Canada: our multiculturalism," explained Ozay Mehmet.

"It allows you to rejoice in the individual celebration of Christmas," added George Flumian.

Costo reflected on both the ability to achieve such a success, as well as the need to expand to reflect more cultures within the community.

"We are not just a multicultural society, we are also a multidimensional society," Costo explained.

Guests of the evening enjoyed not only the music and dinner, but the union of friends. Mehmet mused on the camaraderie of those around him, the feeling that even though we are different we can still rejoice together.

"There is more that reunites us than separates us," he explained.

The evening was a splendid mixture of diversity and union. It allowed the audience to reflect on not only what it means to have your own cultural differences, but also on what it means to be Canadian. Somewhere within those songs resides that chorus that we are fortunate to live in such a wonderful culture and be surrounded by such multiculturalism.

Perhaps Flumian said it best when he explained, "Canada had given a lot of people the chance to live here without cutting out our heritage."

L'Età d'Oro Christmas celebration

by ANGELO FILOSO

On December 2, 2000 at the Marconi Centre in the Garibaldi Community Hall, about 176 members of the community gathered to celebrate L'Età d'Oro Christmas organized by the Chair of the L'Età d'Oro committee Mr. Delio D'Angelo.

The special guests this year were the members of St. Anthony's Church Choir directed by Damaso Colasante and coordinated by Silvia Ierullo. The 35 member choir performed magnificently echoing their music amongst participants of this memorable Christmas celebration.

It was a pleasure to see residents of Villa Marconi Long Term Care Centre sitting with their family members and listening to Christmas songs, such as, "tu scendi dalle stelle".

These songs brought back memories of sacrifices to these seniors who came to Canada to grasp the opportunities available here.

One of the guests who resides at Villa Marconi, Mrs. Anna Marcantonio, told me of Christmas in 1943 when the Germans occupied Pretoro, a small mountainous town in the Abruzzo Region of Italy. One of her friends and family of thirteen lived in a "pagliaro" for two years in the mountain peaks of Pretoro to escape the Germans. A "pagliaro" is a hole in the ground and the roof covered with straw of approximately ten by fifteen feet. After she told me this memory she smiled and knew that the sacrifices she and her friends made to come to Canada was truly worth it.

After the choir's resounding performance the group S & S Musical Effects led by Santino played music to which everyone could dance. This evening with friends and family is so memorable that the feeling of accomplishment in the smile of our seniors will live forever in our midst.



Above: St. Anthony's Church Choir.

Below: Mario Cesare and Giovanni Fallso.



PHOTOS: ANGELO FILOSO

A truly memorable afternoon

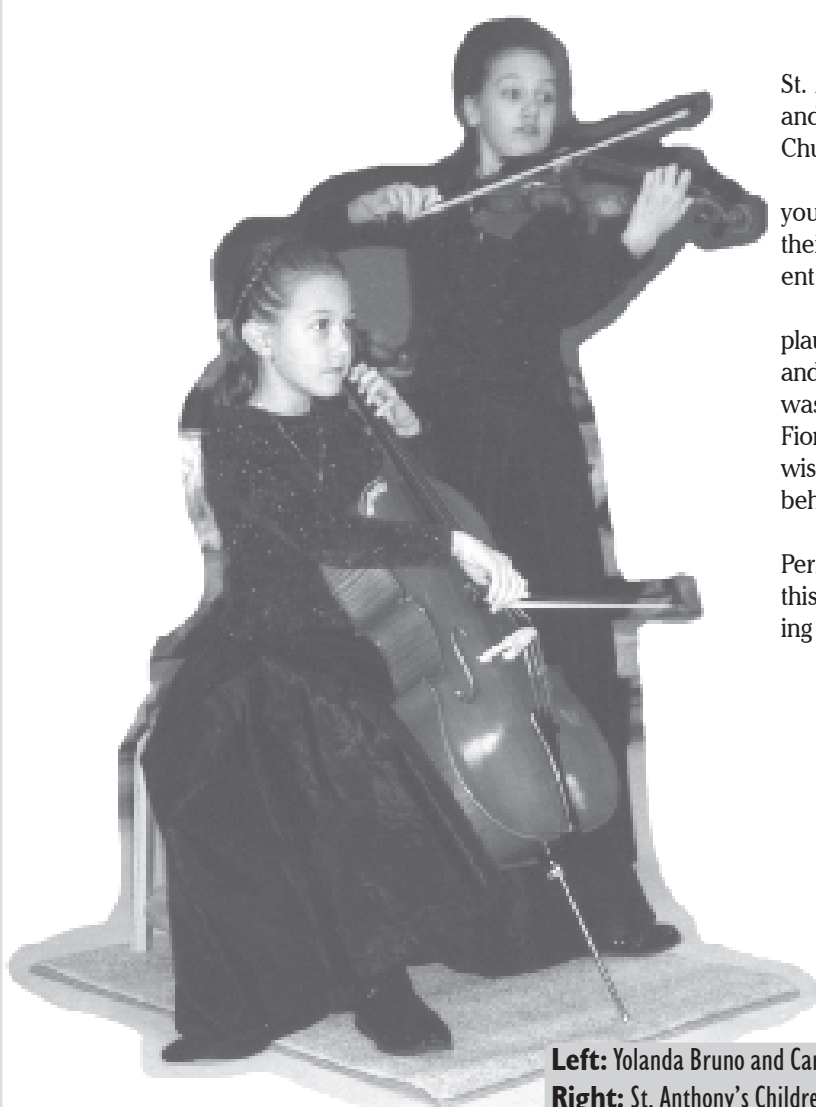
by ANGELO FILOSO

About 150 people gathered in the afternoon to listen to St. Anthony's Church Choir, St. Anthony's Children's Choir and the L'Arcobaleno Choir on December 10 at St. Anthony's Church Community Hall.

The program was full of Christmas songs and music. The young talent of our community made the audience open their mouths in awe. People could not believe that such talent exists in our community.

After the program ended, the audience stood up and applauded for all the 60 performers. The encores were endless and the memories of the past Christmases through the music was truly a feeling to be felt and enjoyed. Father Dominic Fiore gave a heartfelt congratulations to the performers and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year on behalf of the Servite Fathers of St. Anthony's Church.

The Chair of the Organizing Committee Ms. Rosemary Perry is to be congratulated for her continuous work to make this Christmas Concert successful in Spiritual Harmony giving everyone a joyful and memorable afternoon.



Left: Yolanda Bruno and Carmen Bruno play for the crowd.

Right: St. Anthony's Children's Choir.



PHOTOS: LUCIANO PRADAL

Interview / Intervista

Dr. Aurelio Siranni

An Italian Innovator

by Oliviana Mingarelli

Life is never easy and mostly full of hurdles and obstacles. However, Dr. Aurelio Siranni has triumphed over all of these and has proved himself to be an extraordinary man.

Dr. Siranni moved to Canada from a little town in southern Italy in 1925. One of Preston street's first inhabitants, he and his family planted their roots in Ottawa when he was ten years old. At first, many things did not come easily for the young boy, and a few years later he dropped out of grade eight to pursue a technical career. He gained a lot of knowledge in this field but soon realized the importance of education. Upon attempting to re-enter the system, he received much resistance from the school board who did not believe that his technical background constituted an education and therefore would not allow him to attend university.

However, with the help of one teacher's guidance, Dr. Siranni did attend university and received a Bachelor of Science from Mount Allison followed by a Doctorate in Chemistry from McGill University.

"Mr. McCarthy said you go ahead and do what you want. If you put your head to it you can do it," remembers Dr. Siranni. He notes that in following this direction he became the first Italian immigrant in Ottawa to receive his PhD.

During the summers between school years Mr. Siranni worked for the National Research Council (NRC). "The first work I did was for a private company which had nothing to do with the NRC but I worked directly for them. This company paid a certain amount of money to support somebody, myself on this particular project, because they wanted me to do further research."

The recognition of one's work at such a young age does not happen often however, so Siranni's dedication to his work must have been apparent to many people. Dr. Siranni worked for the NRC until his retirement in 1979 at which point he still continued doing some research for them.

During his time there he worked on a project to create lubricating greases without a melting point, a discovery which led to much publicity and acknowledgment of Dr. Siranni's research. His discovery made it possible to almost eliminate oil changes. A test car went over 30,000 kilometres without an oil change and was still working fine.

"This discovery was what gave me a little bit of notoriety but it's really minimal to what I did at the NRC," says Dr. Siranni, chuckling.

He proceeded to explain how he worked on many important projects including one whose aim was to reduce the amount of mercury in coal. The effects of this would help decrease air pollution. In addition, Dr. Siranni was given the title of *principle researcher*, a title given to less than 3 per cent of NRC staff.

Not only has Dr. Siranni been very involved in the scientific community but in the Italian one as well. He was the founding and current president of the Dante Alighieri Society. The society is committed to promoting the Italian language throughout the region.

He is also a member of the Order of Italo-Canadians, the Italian Business and Professional Men's Association and while it existed, the Sons of Italy. This very

active man also participates in a sport well known to Italians: bocce. In fact he and his partner won the bocce championship four or five years ago. He told me that when he is not playing bocce he loves to take care of his plants. He even has lemon trees in his garage.

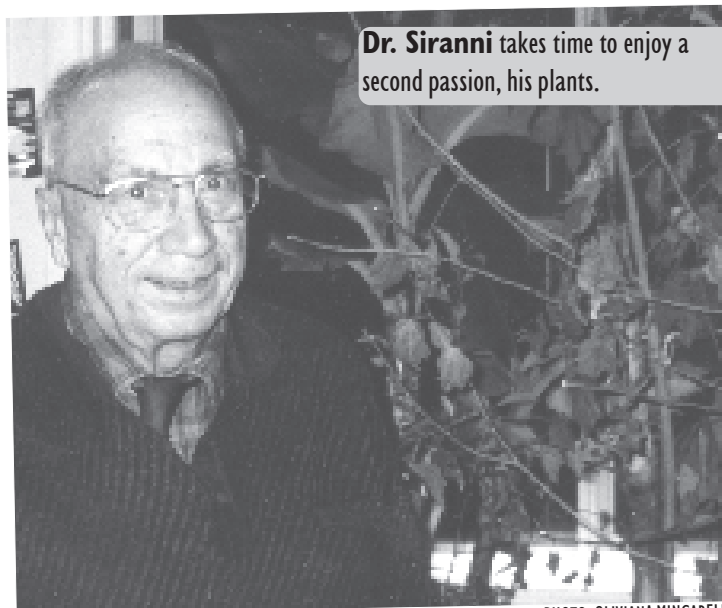
His connection to his culture is evident. When I asked him about how he felt the Italian community had changed his answer was filled with touching memories.

"Life changes all the time. You're interacting with more people so it's difficult for things to stay the same unless you isolate yourself and forget you're native language. When you start learning other languages like English and French you begin to disperse.

"I remember Christmas Eve, the way we celebrated it at home, it was beautiful. Now it's different, it's an Anglo-Saxon atmosphere. At home we had the presepio, I built one for my family last year. Christmas Eve in Italy was beautiful, all the young children like myself would go out and find wood, there were a lot of chestnut groves and some of the branches would die off and fall. We would pick all those sticks up and pile them together and make a big, big fire Christmas Eve. It would last all night.

"At midnight the older people would march off to church and the younger ones would stay to have apple cider and stuff like that. The adults used to make something with flour and honey, it tasted really good.

"When we came to Canada, my grandmother continued the tradition of the presepio however, over time you get away from that, it's strange. I still prefer a nice Christ-



Dr. Siranni takes time to enjoy a second passion, his plants.

PHOTO: OLIVIANA MINGARELLI

mas Eve when we go to the church, the old fashion way. There's something in that you know."

A man of many facets, Dr. Siranni is a remarkable and a successful member of both the Italian community and the science community. Throughout his life Mr. Siranni has attained over 40 patents, both in Canada and the United States. Even though his peers have acknowledged him many times for his research he has remained a very modest man, proud of his heritage and family.

Conversation

Q: Can you tell me about your work with the National Research Council (NRC)?

A: At this point the war was just about over and there was one company interested in making lubricating greases which had no melting point. Lubricating grease was usually made with soaps and oil. They heat them up to a certain temperature and when they cool down the soap particles are very finely divided in the oil and they thicken that oil to a grease-like consistency and that's what the grease is.

However, they wanted greases that were stable and good for very high temperatures. Now, if you want high temperatures and you have an organic system like soap and oil, at a certain temperature they melt and become a liquid instead of a grease, it looks like gel. So actually what we started was *small particle technology*, it was a special study of the properties of these fine particles, what could they do? I found something that gave us a grease which did not have a melting point. We could get temperatures up to 150 degrees centigrade, maybe even above that.

Q: What was the importance of obtaining the lubricating grease with no melting point?

A: It's important because, for example, when you went to a gas station they had a couple dozen greases for all different parts of the car. Well, these greases have a high melting point and high stability, we found that the same grease could work on them all. That was it. If it worked, the oil would only have to be changed once a year.

Q: Can you tell me more about your work with coal?

A: A major issue is the pollution from mercury produced by the coal. We did some work concerning purifying coals however, the problem about what to do with the waste has eluded us. We produced almost pure coal with low sulfur through agglomeration. The factories probably don't even know about our agglomeration process since our paper was published in 1968.

—OM



Dr. Aurelio Siranni with NRC colleagues at his retirement party in 1979.

Memories / Ricordi

From Dante Academy to St. Anthony's School

by Fiona Story

John Dorner hurriedly strides into his office at St. Anthony's School and snatches up the phone. Seconds later, he is informing one unsuspecting mother that her child has fallen in the playground and suffered a few cuts to her face.

He calmly answers the concerned parent's questions and assures her that her daughter has suffered only minor injuries.

Five minutes into the conversation, a tiny girl appears and slowly walks into the office and uncertainly approaches the principal's doorway. She enters at the beckon of Dr. Dorner, gingerly holding a wad of paper towels to the right side of her face.

With great authority, she takes the receiver handed to her and bluntly assures her mother that she is perfectly fine.

"The mother would like us to put ointment on the cuts," Dr. Dorner tells the secretary after finishing the call.

"Will it sting?" the little girl asks with concern as the secretary fishes out the cream.

"No, it shouldn't," Dr. Dorner assures her as he gently applies the ointment.

While he carefully covers her cuts with Band-Aids, the little girl turns her tiny head towards the principal.

"It stings," she says frankly.

A white billboard set on the face of the school displays the school's insignia and the motto, "We Help Each Other".

Angela Ierullo, a former student of the elementary school in the 1960s, claims that this principle has been an enduring one.

"In my day, there were a few boys who were from Italy and they could not speak a word of English," she says. "It was the other children who would help them and this has stayed. The children help each other and they are the ones who have broken the language barriers."

St. Anthony's, which houses 232 students, has always served a very large immigrant population. A quick stroll down the main hallway in December reveals a wall bearing the words "Merry Christmas" in seven different languages.

Classes are taught by a staff of 18 teachers and five teaching assistants with instruction in English and French. On Saturdays, special classes are offered in foreign languages such as Vietnamese and Mandarin.

St. Anthony's also offers special classes to students who have no knowledge of English.

This variety of culture and language is something that has remained with the school since the days when it was known as Dante's Academy.

Dr. Dorner remarks that documented facts of Dante's Academy are extremely scarce.

"There's nothing in any of the city records that have a recording of this address as being a school from earlier days, when it was known to have been a school."

Inquiries into the school board's archives have also turned up empty. How-

ever, school secretary Alicia Broomfield worked at the board during the French-English board separation in 1987-88 and has witnessed the archival problems which accompany transition. She believes that the information might exist but could be temporarily unavailable.

"With the recent city mergers, the school boards have had to merge too and each board has different archival methods so it's a question of bringing all the archives together from the various places where they are housed. There might be something in the files which are being moved around," she explains.

The only remnant of its predecessor which St. Anthony's has in its possession is a framed document containing the names of former Dante Academy students who volunteered for "Canada's Fighting Forces".

The exact date of transition of the name from Dante's Academy to St. Anthony's School remains a mystery as well. Dr. Dorner does mention that the origin of the name may lie with St. Anthony's Church.

"Many schools within our community share the same name as the parish with which they're connected."

The church has always played a very large role in both the community and the school. Regular visits are paid to the school by the pastor and the Sacrament of Reconciliation as well as the Sacrament of First Communion are received by the children in grade two. The Sacrament of Confirmation is delivered in grade six.

The established norms of the Sacraments is under review this year and could be made available to younger children as well. All changes will be consistent with those made by the church.

The opportunity offered by the school to integrate religion into education is invaluable for some families.

"We have a number of children who are not Catholic in our school," Dr. Dorner maintains. "Many of them have come from countries where there is no opportunity to have faith, there is perhaps legislated atheism. We have families who come here hungering for an opportunity for their children to experience a sense of spiritualism."

St. Anthony's offers far more than spirituality. It has won various awards and recognition, the most notorious is the "Ugly Schoolyard" contest of 1998.

"The children here came up with the highest level priority being to have trees in their schoolyard. It was one hundred percent concrete and not at all suitable for children to be playing there," says Dr. Dorner. "It came down to a question of funding."

St. Anthony's won the contest and obtained the required funds.

"There was a tremendous celebration within the community. We had a symbolic planting of a tree. We couldn't actually plant it because at the time there was absolutely no earth to plant it in," Dr. Dorner remembers with a laugh.

From that point on, it became a community effort to introduce greenery to the schoolyard. Children and parents from both St. Anthony's and Cambridge Street Community School lent a hand. The Italian Association also participated and so did local politicians.

"It's like a mini rainforest now," exclaims Ierullo, who also participated in the planting. "It's giving these kids a knowledge of the environment we didn't have as children."

The schoolyard gardens are ongoing projects.

In early January, an expert from the Canadian Biodiversity Institute will be meeting with St. Anthony's School teachers to plan this year's planting and composting.

Dr. Dorner says that the schoolyard has become an outdoor classroom and the school is doing all it can to ensure its success.

"We're looking at the biodiversity possibilities within our schoolyard. We're looking at what kinds of life exists there and how do we support it."

Another project under consideration at the school is a video-connection of the classrooms. The morning announcements, which are done by the students, are currently broadcast over the PA system. Dr. Dorner says that the school would like to obtain a video camera and television sets for the classrooms to enable televised broadcast of the announcements.

"It will incorporate technology, science and the language arts," he states. "We're trying to bring technology to the children. It is the modus operandi of learning the skills they will need later in life."

The project, however, is still in the very early stages of consideration and its future is uncertain.

St. Anthony's has also had its fair share of obstacles as well. Within the last year, the school endured a hard fight to prevent its closure by the school board.

Ierullo felt that the idea of closing St. Anthony's School was ridiculous considering the school's cultural diversity.

"How can they [the board] claim to support immigration and diverse cultures and not support institutions which support these cultures?"

The closing of the school would have had repercussions on a spiritual level as well. St. Anthony's is the only Catholic school left in Centretown.

Sister Emilia Testa, supervisor of the St. Anthony Daycare feels that many parents would have opted to enroll their children in the public, Cambridge Street Community School, as opposed to sending them out to Bayswater to attend St. Mary's, the closest Catholic school.

"The families and children would have lost a lot of services because the school makes enormous efforts to include diverse languages and special needs," she says staunchly.

With the help of regional councillor Diane Holmes, around 100 people were bused to the strategy meeting before the board. Not only did community members speak out against the closing of St. Anthony's School but the students did as well.

"The kids were a hit," says Ierullo. "Two students from St. Anthony's and two from Cambridge (Public School) spoke. They had prepared their own speeches, every word was from their mouths and minds."

The board spared the school and the closure of St. Anthony's School is no longer an issue.

The school has also been the focus of media attention. Recently, CBC has been knocking on St. Anthony's door hoping to cover the letter-writing campaign the children undertake every Christmas. Each year, students send letters of greetings to Canadian peacekeepers who are unable to be with their families at Christmastime.

Among its other good deeds, St. Anthony's also coordinates a Christmas gift and food donation for the families of students who are known to be in times of economic trouble. The Servite Sisters of St. Anthony donate toys and church parishioners donate groceries.

St. Anthony, although a vehicle of education, is also an outlet for spirituality and community cooperation.

Ierullo remembers with fondness her years at St. Anthony and its sister school, St. Agnes, which is now closed.

"There was a real community warmth. We, as children, felt important."

Whether it be tending to a few cuts on the face or lobbying against the closure of the school, the students are learning the importance and strength of cooperation. The community's evolution and survival has been based on helping one another and St. Anthony's School mirrors that ideal perfectly.

If you have information concerning the founding of St. Anthony's School, please call John Dorner or Il Postino at 567-4532.



The first students of Dante Academy, in 1925.

Community / Comunità

Willow Street Angels say thanks

by ANGELO FILOSO

On December 14, 2000 the Willow Street Angels, under the leadership of Angela Ierullo and John Dörner, principal of St. Anthony's School, honored former mayor Jim Watson, MPP for Ottawa Centre, Richard Patten and Angelo Filoso, chair of the Neighbourhood Alert Community Association for an area bounded by the Ottawa River, Bronson Avenue, Carling Avenue and the CPR tracks.

The Willow Street Angels is a local youth group who attend St. Anthony's School and are pro-active in im-

proving the quality of life of the community at large. These three individuals have supported the Willow Street Angels ever since of its existence in order to achieve its goals of improving the safety of the community and the environment for all to enjoy.

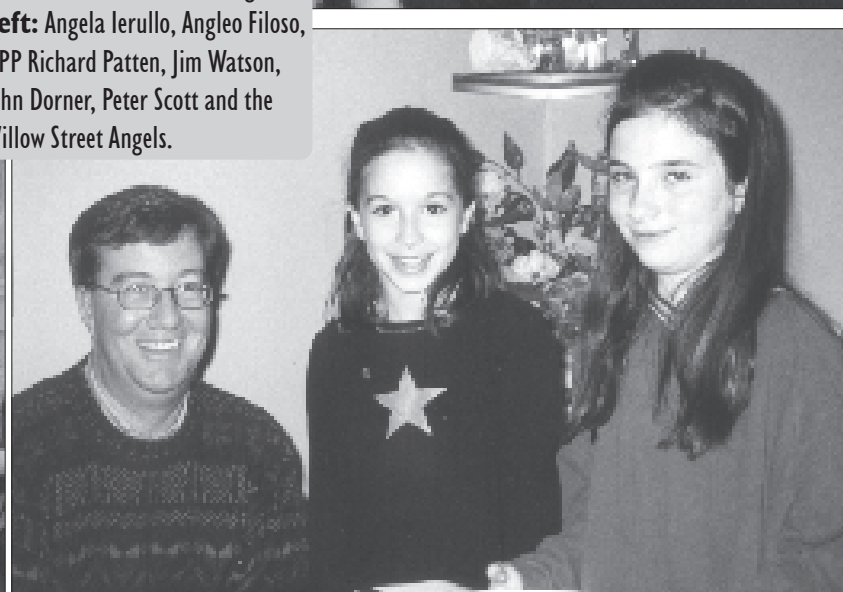
It is with great pride that we have such devotion from our youth to continue to build our community in a pro-active and positive strata for all to enjoy. On behalf of *Il Postino*, I congratulate the Willow Street Angels Youth Group for the continuation of their work and their leadership shown in achieving their goals to improve our quality of life.



Right: MPP Richard Patten and a Willow Street Angel.

Below: Former Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson and Willow Street Angels.

Left: Angela Ierullo, Angelo Filoso, MPP Richard Patten, Jim Watson, John Dörner, Peter Scott and the Willow Street Angels.



PHOTOS: ANGELO FILOSO

VILLA MARCONI PRESENTS

The Italian Venetian Carnival

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For more information and reservations call 727-6201
or the Italian Canadian Community Centre at 567-4532

Il Governo Italiano sta sviluppando i mezzi per un migliore rapporto con gli italiani all'estero.

A tale fine si vogliono incoraggiare soprattutto i giovani a far parte dei cosiddetti CO.MI.TES che sta già esistono in altre città canadesi. Un comitato provvisorio locale si sta interessando a sollecitare la partecipazione dei giovani della nostra comunità. Si pregano gli interessati di telefonare a Augusto Capitani (723-1793) o Giovanni Saracino (731-4801).

The Italian Government is on a mission to improve the relationship with Italians abroad.

For this purpose, we are encouraging the participation of the younger generation in CO.MI.TES which currently exist in various cities across the country. A local temporary committee within our community is currently soliciting the participation of the youths in the area. If interested, please call Augusto Capitani (723-1793) or Giovanni Saracino (731-4801).

Food / Cibo

Mangia! Mangia! Dinner at Giovanni's

by OLIVIANA MINGARELLI

Giovanni's restaurant, located in the heart of Little Italy, opened 17 years ago and has since been one of the most popular Italian restaurants in Ottawa.

Upon entrance you are greeted by Nino, one of the owners. He will show you to your table and proceed to gracefully put your napkin upon your lap. Once seated you might notice the small rose floating in a bowl on your table or perhaps one of the classical style paintings on the wall.

I was lucky enough, to be served by an exceptional waiter named Giorgio. He took the time to suggest what to order and advised that I should not order the tortellini in brodo and the risotto because it would probably be too much food. Therefore, I opted for the risotto and ordered an entrée instead of the soup.

While sipping on a glass of Merlot, the house red, and waiting for my food, Giorgio was nice enough to show me their extensive wine cellar. They had wines from around

the world, at all prices.

When I received my risotto I was surprised by how large the portions are. Giorgio was correct in assuming that I would not have been able to eat the soup and the risotto since I did not even have room to finish my first plate. My guest was equally as pleased with her meal.

I would definitely recommend visiting this fine restaurant, whether for a romantic meal with your loved one or a business meeting. The service and food are exceptional and will leave you very satisfied.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 13, Saturday, 6pm

Tribute Dinner to Mary Pitt

Villa Marconi, 1026 Baseline Road, 727-6201

\$35.00 per person

January 21, Monday

Ottawa Symphony Posttule

National Arts Centre - Panarama Room

\$60.00 per ticket for concert, 747-3104

\$20.00 for reception, 224-4982

February 3, Saturday, 6pm

Annual Parish Dinner

St. Anthony's Church, 412 Booth St., 236-2304

\$35.00 per ticket

February 17, Saturday, 6pm

Winterlude Venetian Italian Carnival

Villa Marconi, 1026 Baseline Road, 727-6201

\$20.00 per ticket

Send your event listings to:

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Style / Moda

United Colors of Benetton

An Italian success story

by ALISON FILOSO

Benetton is Europe's largest clothing manufacturer and the world's largest consumer of wool in the garment sector. Luciano Benetton, the company's idea man and chairman, has recently created *Playlife*, a line of athletic clothing, with its own stores, aimed for the most part at young men. Along with a separate sportswear collection under the *Playlife* name, the company intends to create clothing lines around sports, such as in-line skating, tennis, skiing, and snowboarding.

Benetton portrays an Italian success story which began in 1965 with a teenaged Luciano Benetton delivering his sister Giuliana's hand-knit sweaters on his bicycle. Shortly after, he quit his job in a fabric store to start a business with her. They were later joined by their two young brothers, Gilberto and Carlo. In 1969 the Benettons opened their store in Belluno

and another in Paris a year after. Today, Luciano is the chairman and creative mind of the Benetton Group, Giuliana has total control of the design staff and the twice yearly collections, Gilberto is in charge of the company accounts, while Carlo is responsible for production.

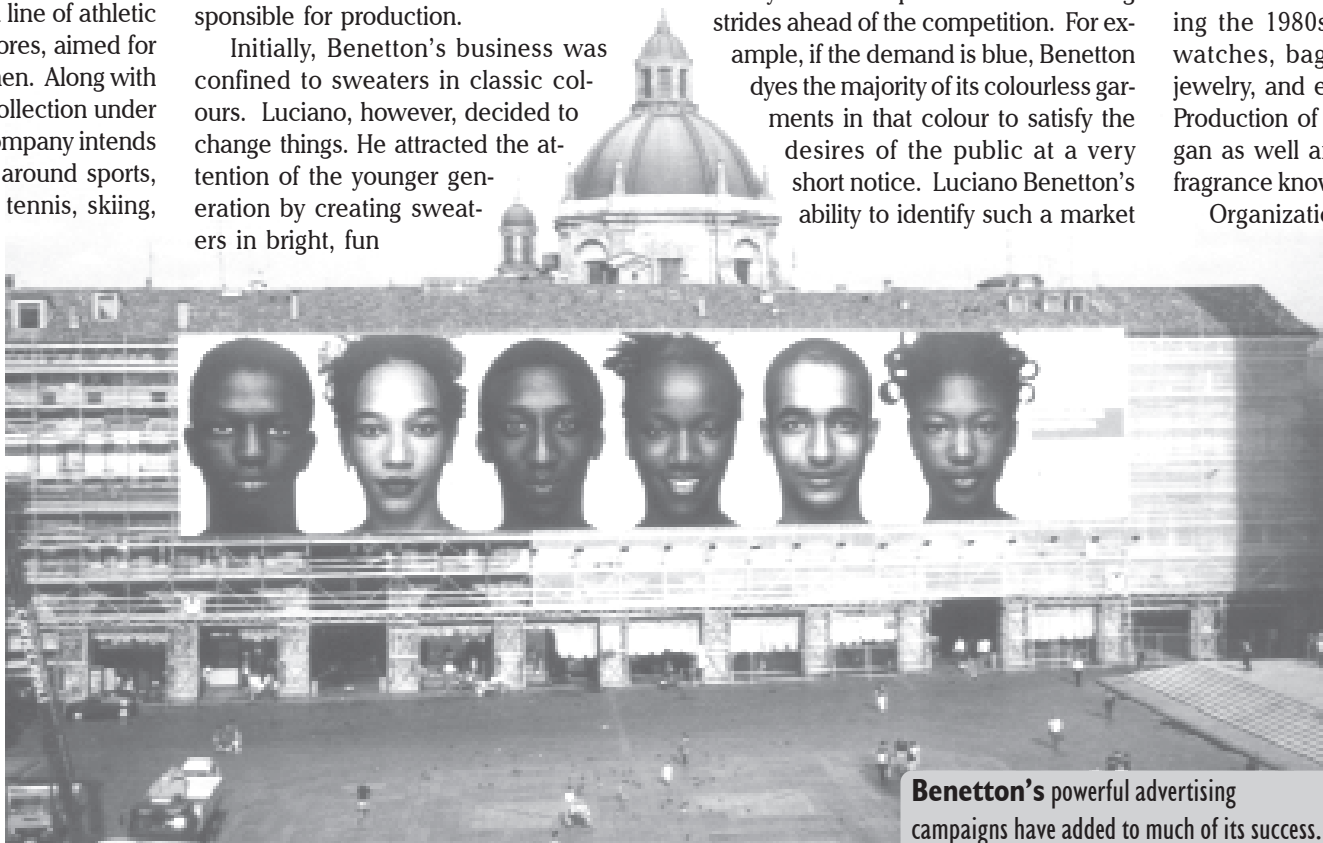
Initially, Benetton's business was confined to sweaters in classic colours. Luciano, however, decided to change things. He attracted the attention of the younger generation by creating sweaters in bright, fun

colours. His slogan became "United Colors of Benetton." He also treated the wool to make it softer. By making the garments and then dyeing them in bright colours according to demand, Benetton provided faster delivery of desired product and took long strides ahead of the competition. For example, if the demand is blue, Benetton dyes the majority of its colourless garments in that colour to satisfy the desires of the public at a very short notice. Luciano Benetton's ability to identify such a market

and supply it led to the company's incredible growth.

Casual wear for men, women, and children increased and the company diversified from its original woolen garments to cotton and denim. Then, during the 1980s Benetton sunglasses, watches, bags, shoes, gloves, hats, jewelry, and even car parts appeared. Production of Benetton cosmetics began as well and included a women's fragrance known as *Colors of Benetton*.

Organization, efficiency, clear image, and effective advertising are all ingredients that brought the Benetton name to fame. Not to be forgotten are some of the company's many faithful collaborators who have contributed to its success: the architects Tobia and Afra Scarpa, who designed the bright green prototype store, and Oliviero Toscani, the image guru who masterminded Benetton's powerful advertising campaigns.



Benetton's powerful advertising campaigns have added to much of its success.

Fisher Heights Community Health Centre

This Community Health Centre is a leading regional resource in resident-centred long Term, respite, and convalescent care.

The Health Centre is an Agency which provides long term and community programs for seniors with particular emphasis on providing for the needs of the culturally sensitive and those requiring dementia care. We are currently accepting resumes from experienced individuals to work in the following positions:

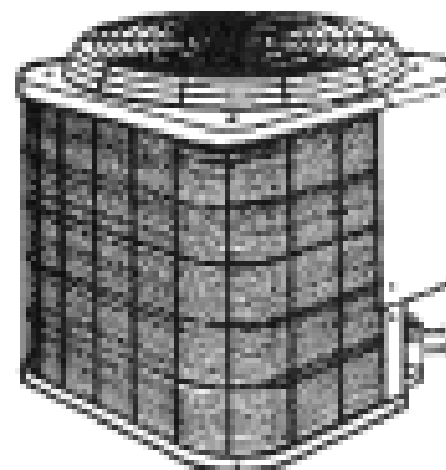
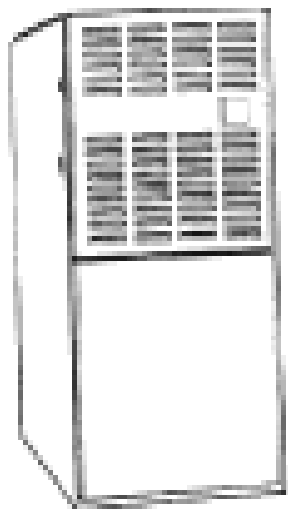
Registered Nurse (casual) \$20.75/hour
Resident Assistant (casual and RPT) \$15.90/hr
(Performs duties similar to Health Care Aide or PSW)
Food and Nutrition Aide (casual) \$15.85/hr
Director of Care/Administrator (Casual) \$25.00

Please forward your resume by Wednesday, January 31, 2001 to:

Lee Masaerat, Human Resources Services
Fisher Heights Community Health Centre
Suite 101, 865 Gladstone Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7T4
Fax (613) 236-6545
E mail FHealth_Centre@hotmail.com

We thank all candidates for applying;
however only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

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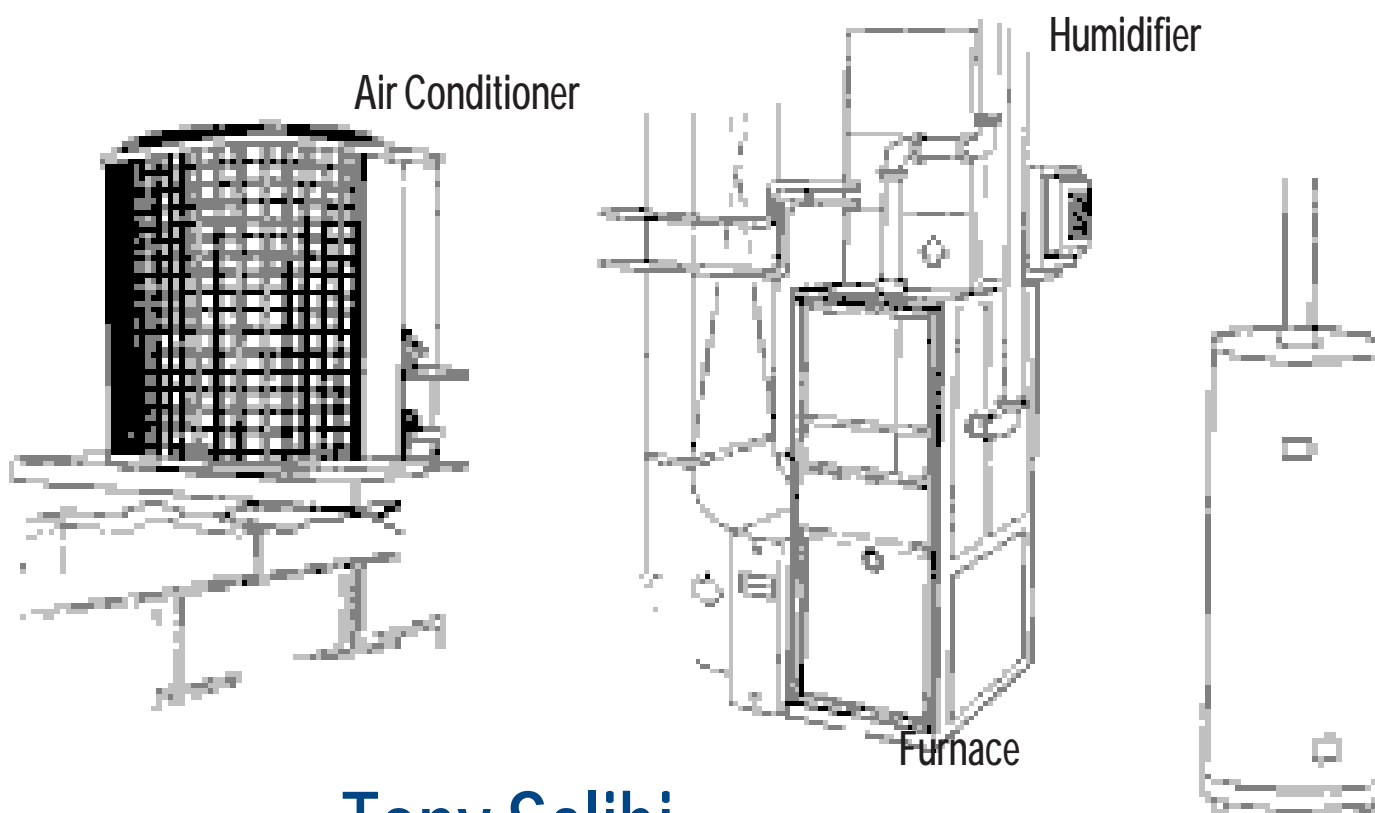


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