



IL POSTINO

VOL. 3 NO. 8

MAY 2003 / MAGGIO 2003

\$2.00



IL POSTINO • OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 04564405
PUBLICATION AGREEMENT NUMBER: 1835041

Publisher

Preston Street Community Foundation
Italian Canadian Community Centre
of the National Capital Region Inc.

Executive Editor

Angelo Filoso

Managing Editor

Tessa Derksen

Editorial Assistant

Krista Walsh

Advertising

Santina Vendra

Layout & Design

Tessa Derksen

Web Site Manager

Wen-Yi Que

Printing

Winchester Print & Stationary

Contributors for this issue

(in alphabetical order)

Ivana Baldelli, Gianni Cacciotti, Canadian Museum of
Civilization, Angelo Filoso, Marcus Filoso, Nicolas Frate,
Giovanni, Giuseppina Iezzi, Ermanno La Riccia, Alfredo Maiolo,
Chiara Mingarelli, Luciano Pradal, Nicole Valentinuzzi, Danilo
Velásquez, Santina Vendra

Submissions

We welcome submissions, letters, articles, story ideas and
photos. All materials for editorial consideration must be double
spaced, include a word count, and your full name, address and
phone number. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all
submissions for length, clarity and style.

Next Deadline

May 22, 2003

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 \$20.00 (includes GST) per year.
Foreign \$38 per year.

©Copyright 2003 Il Postino.

All rights reserved. Any reproduction of the contents is strictly
prohibited without written permission from *Il Postino*.

SUBSCRIPTION / ABBONAMENTO

- Yes, I want to subscribe to twelve issues of **Il Postino**
Sì, vorrei abbonarmi a Il Postino per 12 numeri
- \$20.00 Subscription Canada / Abbonamento Canada
- \$38.00 Subscription Overseas / Abbonamento Estero

Name and Surname: / Nome e cognome: _____

Street: / Via: _____ **Postal Code: / Cp.:** _____ **City: / Città:** _____ **Province: / Provincia:** _____

Tel.: _____ **Fax:** _____ **Date:** _____

to / intestato a: **Preston Street Community Foundation Inc., Suite 101 Gladstone Avenue 865, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7T4**

I prefer to pay by: / *Scelgo di pagare con:*
•cash / *contanti* •cheque / *assegno*
•money order / *vaglia postale*

Easter Message

**The Most Reverend Marcel Gervais
Archbishop of Ottawa**

It's not unusual to long for simpler, more peaceful
times and almost any time seems better than our own.
Our times with "wars and rumours of wars" are about
as bad as they could be. We have to close our eyes to
newspapers, turn off our radios and unplug our TV's to
give our minds and hearts relief. It is very
easy to get depressed and discouraged.

In fact, things weren't that different in
Jesus' time. Back then, people used to say,
"If only our land was not occupied by a
foreign army and if only we didn't
have to put up with them
and their taxes... If only
we could stop terrorists
from killing Roman sol-
diers and those who co-
operate with them... If only the
Messiah would come!"

After Jesus' death, the disciples
despaired of Jesus
helping them be free.
Just a week earlier,
they'd witnessed the
hopeful promise of Je-
sus' triumphant entry into Je-
salem and now, their beloved leader was
dead. What were they to do? Who would they turn to
now?

Two disciples leaving Jerusalem were so preoccu-
pied with this dilemma they walked several hours blind
to the fact that the Risen Christ was walking with them.
They talked at length with him, reviewing all of their
problems, going over all of the events and listening care-
fully while Jesus explained the Scriptures and showed

them why things happened the way they did. He had to
suffer and then rise again. It was only when he stayed
for supper and was breaking bread with them that they
realized it was Jesus himself. This changed their down-
heartedness into elation. (Luke 24)

Their earthly situation was unchanged; the Romans
were still in control, for example, but for these two dis-
ciples everything had changed. Jesus, their hope, was
alive and shared a meal with them as
he had during his life on earth.

We Christians are in the
same situation. Wars will
continue to be fought. We
will continue to share with
our Lord all of our troubles.
We shall lay them all at his
feet. We will also share the
Eucharist with him on
Easter. He will be at the
table with us and we will
realize that he is indeed
risen. He is alive and our
ated by him and through
also redeemed by him. In
spite of all indications to the contrary, Christ is with us
and he is our hope.

For all of those who do not share our same hope,
may you be strengthened by the fact that we, your broth-
ers and sisters on this earth, hope for a world trans-
formed into a place of peace. "Peace be with you" were
Christ's first words after rising from the dead. That peace
is meant for all people on earth, and it is my Easter greet-
ing to all of my readers and their families. Peace be with
you all!

We need your help...

Friends of Villa Marconi are making a list of original families that established roots in Ottawa prior to 1940.
We would like the first and last names, and dates of arrival in Ottawa if possible. If your family, or if you know
a family that arrived prior to 1940 please contact Consolata Martino at 727.6201 (ext. 5301).

A reunion of these families is planned and the date is to be announced.

Villa Marconi sta cercando di aggiornare e mettere insieme una lista delle prime famiglie italiane che si sono
stabilite a Ottawa prima del 1940.

Se la vostra famiglia, o qualcuno di vostra conoscenza è arrivato a Ottawa prima di questa data ci piacerebbe
sapere il nome, il cognome e la data precisa di arrivo. Vi chiediamo quindi di contattare Villa Marconi al
727.6201 (interno 5301) chiedendo di Consolata Martino.

Si sta organizzando un incontro per queste famiglie, con data da annunciare. Nelle prossime trasmissioni vi
saranno forniti più dettagli.

Ottawa

**Bob Chiarelli,
Mayor**
At your service!

Mayor's Office
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1
Tel.: 580-2496
(or info 24/7: 580-2400)
E-mail: bob.chiarelli@ottawa.ca
Web: ottawa.ca

**Bob Chiarelli,
Maire**
À votre service!

Bureau du maire
110, avenue Laurier Ouest
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1
Tél.: 580-2496
(ou info 24/7 : 580-2400)
Courriel: Bob.chiarelli@ottawa.ca
Web: ottawa.ca

*Lorne Kelly e la sua
Famiglia sono grata per
vostro amicizia da 1954*

KELLY

SALONE FUNEBRE E CAPPELLE

235-6712

Ooops!

On our April cover we spelled "Happy Easter" in French
incorrectly. It should have been "Joyeuses Pâques."

We also listed the wrong contact information for the
Association Rapinese President Lorenzo Micucci (His
telephone number is 731.3805). We sincerely apologize
for our errors.

Heritage / Retaggio

“Gateway to Canada” Celebrates 75th Anniversary

By Nicolas Frate

Most Canadians require a hyphen within their ethnic description; Canada is comprised of Chinese-Canadians, Irish-Canadians, Italian-Canadians and so forth. It is the accumulation of such diverse ethnic origins that gives Canada that unmistakable and fortunate global identity. Even today, in many countries the idea of mixed races and ethnicity causes something of a “boiling pot” effect, where cultures clash. Canada has proven, however, that it is a “melting pot” for diversity, a country where people from all over the world can feel welcome and accepted.

On March 8, 2003, Pier 21, the “gateway to Canada,” celebrated its 75th anniversary.

From 1928 to 1971, a million immigrants, 100,000 refugees, over 400,000 thousand Canadian troops during World War II, 48,000 war brides and their 22,000 children, passed through Pier 21. Among these millions of immigrants 471,940 were of Italian origin, making them the third largest group to choose Canada as their home.

The main reason most Italians ventured to Canada was an admirable one – they sought a better life for their children. They arrived on ships like the *Sarturnia*, the *Vulcania* or the *Conte Biancamano* and brought with them precious items from home and hearts full of dreams. It was usually the men who arrived first. They found work and established themselves before making a home and sending for their wives and children. Those modest beginnings for the many immigrants of this country would in fact provide a better life for their children. First-generation children have the luxury of shelter, abundant amounts of food and clean water, education and safety, as well as strongly embedded roots from their parents’ homeland.

There are many records and faded photographs to capture the happenings of Pier 21, but statistics and still images are only a prelude to those moments in time. It is the personal stories of those who passed through Canada’s gateway that capture the significance of such moments. An immigrant by the name of Antonio Saez Jiménez from Spain recounts his Pier 21 experience as a rough voyage that took him to a wonderful new place. It was September 30, 1958, on the ship *Americo Vespuccio*.



Photos courtesy of www.pier21.ca

TOP LEFT: From 1928 to 1971, more than a million immigrants passed through Pier 21 - 471,940 were of Italian origin.
TOP RIGHT: Father J.R. Brown, the Roman Catholic Chaplain at Pier 21 in the late 1960's.



“The journey was from Barcelona to Lisbon to Halifax. It was terrible! Hurricane Helen. Ninety percent of the people were sick and three old persons died. I remember well the ladies who came to me asking if I needed any help. I could see them helping people, old and young, taking care of babies and trying to communicate with so many Greeks and Italians who could not speak English or French. They really did do a magnificent job. Also, considering the large amounts of arrivals, the processing went smoothly and quick enough. I went right across Pier 21 to the train to Montreal and Kingston, Ontario.”

Jiménez goes on to extend his appreciation for Canada’s lack of discrimination of his nationality and language difficulties.

“I never felt I was living in a foreign country. Nobody is perfect but your society has something to teach others.”

Jiménez, like so many immigrants, would become successful with his new life and establish his family while adding culture to the nation.

“I am today half Spanish and half Canadian. Part of my family is in Canada and most of my friends are in Canada.”

Jiménez’s memories of Pier 21, like many who passed through, are a play on his senses. Immigrants of the Pier recollect everything from certain faces to distinct smells when they re-visit the place where their lives were forever changed.

“I will never forget the instant I stepped, for the first time, on Canadian soil; and when recently I went back to Pier 21, so quiet and empty. I could feel the noises of children, of parents calling them in different languages. There were so many people around Pier 21 then, with the young and not so young ladies organizing and helping people, so many of them helpless, and now a big empty room.”

Immigrants weren’t the only ones affected by Pier 21. Canada’s gateway was made possible through support from organizations like the Red Cross and Knights of Columbus, as well as the hard work and dedication of many volunteers like Father J.R. Brown, the Roman Catholic Chaplain of Pier 21 in the 1960’s. Father Brown assumed his duties with compassion and enthusiasm. Armed with an observing eye and a keen sense of humour, the chaplain stood ready to help any newcomer in need, regardless of denomination.

Father Brown looks back at his two-decade career at Pier 21 and remembers the individuals who “inadvertently shaped his attitudes and who reinforced his basic belief in the goodness of mankind.” Father Brown, like many of the good people who volunteered on Pier 21, sees his experience as a blessing.

“I’m very grateful I was assigned to do this work. Because what you get, you couldn’t get in books. You get it through

exposure, meeting these people of different nationalities, whether it’s on ships or through refugees or immigration – their culture, music, everything.”

Pier 21 has become one of Canada’s most popular historic sites. On March 7, 2003, Pier 21 National Historic Site launched its 75th anniversary in Montreal with the “Footprints on the Pier” fundraiser. The fundraiser recognized the contributions of the immigrants who built Canada. Over 500 people attended the televised fundraising gala at the Chateau Champlain Marriott. It was a huge success with tremendous sponsorship.

Pier 21 reopened as a National Historic Site and interactive high-tech museum in 1999. In 2001, Pier 21 was voted best new attraction in Canada by Attractions Canada.

The Pier 21 site is more than a historic building – it represents a monument to Canadian multiculturalism. After all, it’s estimated that one in five Canadians has a link to this former immigration shed. Pier 21 is a symbol of Canada’s longtime promise to immigrants all over the world of a better future. A future made possible by kind-hearted individuals who volunteered their time, effort and lives to help mold one of the world’s most peacefully diverse countries.

As I sit here looking at photos from the Pier, gazing into the eyes of immigrants – eyes full of curiosity, full of tears and ultimately eyes full of hope – I can’t help but silently thank the immigrants who left their homes to give me a better life. I smile as I listen to the song written in tribute to the Pier and its people and I can only hope others can share my appreciation for my heritage and the individuals that blessed me with such a heritage.

“...here on this day, a new life has begun, as we first set foot on Pier 21...”

You can support Pier 21. Volunteer your time at the Pier 21 location; become a member of the non-profit organization; or share a personal story about the Pier.

Visit their web site (www.pier21.ca) for more information. Or write to: 1055 Marginal Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4P6. Or call: 902.425.7770. Or fax: 902.423.4045.

2	3	4	5
14	1		6
13			7
11	9	8	
12	10		

How will you honour your mother?

- 1: (Designed by Marcus Filoso) *Mother and Child*, by Joseph Roitner (home.eol.ca/~jroitner/semi-a/pages/05.%20Mother%20and%20Child-1957.htm)
- 2: Julie Kirby and mom “Per la festa delle mamme, io gli do un regalo!”
- 3: Marcus, Jennifer and Alison with Rina Filoso
- 4: Stefano Mazzuca and mom
- 5: Camelia Lariccia and mom “Con tanto amore per la festa delle mamme, io ci do una rosa con un grande abbraccio.”
- 6: Amanda Chiucchi “Per la festa delle mamme, io do una cartolina alla mamma.”
- 7: Rina and Marcus Filoso
- 8: Eric and Janet Goulet
- 9: Sandro Young “Per la festa delle mamme, io gli compro i fiori.”
- 10: Marissa Sicoli “Per la festa delle mamme, io gli do un regalino.”
- 11: Alessia Menyhart “Per la giornata della mamma, io preparero la colazione.”
- 12: Alison, Jennifer and Marcus Filoso with grandmother Elvira
- 13: Alexia Kirby “Per la festa delle mamme, io gli do un bacio.”
- 14: Eric and Janet Goulet

World / Mondo

Il sogno canadese: fondare una scuola nel capoluogo

pubblicato nel *L'Aquila* (marzo 5, 2003)

Un gemellaggio con la città di Hamilton, la creazione di una scuola canadese all'Aquila (con programmi ministeriali di quel paese) e la nascita di scambi di natura culturale ed economica con alcune città del paese nordamericano. Questi i punti fondamentali discussi ieri a palazzo Margherita nel corso di una riunione con una delegazione canadese.

La delegazione, che ha incontrato il sindaco Biagio Tempesta, l'assessore all'Istruzione e al Turismo Corrado Ruggeri e il consigliere comunale Goffredo Palmerini, era composta da 14 direttori generali dei distretti scolastici dell'Ontario e guidata da Angelo Di Ianni, direttore generale del distretto scolastico di Welland e presidente della Conferenza dei direttori generali dell'Ontario e dal fratello Larry Di Ianni, consigliere comunale di Hamilton, entrambi originari di Villetta Barrea. I fratelli di Ianni hanno sottolineato come già da qualche anno, nel periodo estivo, numerosi studenti canadesi si recano all'Aquila per effettuare vacanze studio. L'intento è quello di incentivare la presenza di studenti nel capoluogo abruzzese, soprattutto attraverso la creazione di una scuola canadese.

« È una proposta che prenderemo seriamente in considerazione – ha dichiarato l'assessore Ruggeri – e che trova, da parte nostra, la massima disponibilità, in considerazione della portata culturale e dell'indotto economico che l'iniziativa determinerebbe. »

La delegazione ha inoltre proposto al sindaco Tempesta l'attivazione di un gemellaggio con la città di Hamilton, che conta circa mezzo milione di abitanti, a 60 km da Toronto. L'intesa assumerebbe in particolare una valenza economica attraverso il coinvolgimento delle università e delle industrie delle città gemellate. È stata individuata, inoltre, la possibilità di istituire delle borse di studio e dei pacchetti di viaggio speciali per gli studenti aquilani che volessero recarsi in Canada per approfondire la conoscenza dell'Inglese.

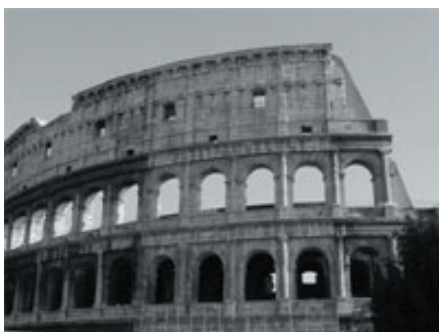


Photos courtesy of Phil Rocco

Un programma di scambio tra il Canada e l'Italia sta per verificarsi.



Credit Courses in ITALY Summer 2003



Location: L'Aquila, Italy
Dates: July 10 to July 31, 2003
Ages: 13-19
Cost: \$3,995.00 (dependent on exchange rate & additional airport taxes)

Fee includes:

- * Round trip airfare from Toronto to Italy
- * Accommodation and major meals
- * Round trip coach from airport to L'Aquila
- * Tuition and instruction
- * All excursions (Rome, Florence, Venice)
- * Flight cancellation & medical insurance
- * Day trips to an Italian beach near Pescara
- * Entrance fees to all major museum and/or art gallery visits.

Fee does not include:

- * Round trip ground transportation to Toronto
- * Telephone calls home
- * Purchase of items & goods of a personal nature
- * Entrance fees to local discos (supervised activity).

Please note:

- * The courses offered have credit value in Ontario schools.
- * The courses will be taught by Ontario qualified teachers.
- * 24-hour supervision will be provided by personnel accompanying the group.
- * Students will enjoy classroom time & free time within reasonable supervision parameters.

Credit courses:

- * Italian Language Credits Program
- * History Credits Program
- World History/Ancient Civilization
- * Art Credit Programs
- Art History & Visual Arts
- * Music Credit Programs
- Dates July 28 to August 25, 2003
- Note: special departure date
- * Grade 12 Religion Courses

Who should choose this program?

- * Students who are interested in obtaining an academic credit while studying & traveling in Italy
- * Students whose credit load may not permit enrolling in certain subject areas
- * Students who wish to be enriched by studying during the summer in beautiful, historic & friendly environments
- * Students trying to reach ahead.

For information & applications contact:

Hamilton-Dante Centre for Italian Language and Culture Inc.
 346 Main Street East
 Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 1J2
 Tel.: 905.527.3400
 Fax: 905.527.4350
 E-mail: info@italianculture.ca
 Web site: www.italianculture.ca

Watch for our interview with Philip Rocco in the June issue.

Interview / Intervista

Angelo Licari

Preserving Italian Culture for Future Generations

By Tessa Derksen



Photos courtesy of Angelo Licari

Many Canadian Aboriginals live by the seven-generation rule, which simply means that they consider how their actions today will affect their children's children right down to the seventh generation. Some environmentalists use this idea to urge people to respect the planet. Other people live this law in terms of preserving a rich and vibrant culture for future generations.

Angelo Licari is one such person. He has dedicated his life to the continuation of Italian culture and language and has done so by building and maintaining strong family and community ties.

Angelo Licari was born in 1929 on Preston Street and lived there for the next 70 years. Born just two months after his seven-year-old brother Angelo died, he was baptized Angelo Secondo Licari. His parents would have no other children. Licari admits that as the only child he was "precious."

"They were very devoted parents and placed a great importance on promoting and preserving the Italian culture in our home," Licari says.

Licari recalls how at six-years-old he started to speak English at home and his mother said, "No, in questa casa si parla italiano."

His parents, Domenico and Paola (Belle) Licari, were community pioneers. They left their hometown of Fiumara in Reggio Calabria to come to Canada in 1912. Like many immigrants they arrived at Pier 21 in Halifax, later moving to Ottawa. Also like many immigrants, Domenico first worked for the railroad. He then entered a traditional Italian industry – building – and remained in the plaster/stucco trade the rest of his life.

In 1913, Domenico helped build what would become the cornerstone of Ottawa's Italian community – St. Anthony's Church.

The Preston Street of Angelo Licari's youth had a wonderful sense of community. Perhaps it was a desire to preserve this atmosphere that motivated him to become so active in his community.

At the age of 16, he joined the Società Figli d'Italia, becoming its youngest member. The society, founded in 1907, was the first Italian Society in Canada. Many society members were pioneers of the Ottawa community, including Domenico Licari.

"I made a solemn vow to the [community] pioneers that I would maintain, preserve and promote Italian culture," says Angelo Licari.

During the early years, Società Figli d'Italia was one of the only Italian organizations to exist; therefore, much of the job of helping new immigrants fell to it.

"Welfare and the whole social system that we have now didn't exist then," Licari explains. "We had to help each other."

At 24, Licari was elected President of the Società Figli d'Italia; he served for 18 years. This leadership position would be the first of many: President of St. Anthony's Parish Council, Vice-President of the Holy Name Society, President of the Legion of Mary, President of the Altar Boy Society, and Secretary of St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Angelo Licari helped the new Italian immigrants in many ways. He represented them at immigration hearings and appeals; he acted as a court translator; he assisted in obtaining building permits for home renovations; and, he found jobs for many. He also taught English classes at what was then Dante Academy and is

bers seeing the famous artist Guido Nincheri working on the church frescoes and says that he knew all of the people whose names appear in Nincheri's stained-glass windows.

In 1952, Angelo Licari performed a nine-week "Novena" at St. Anthony's Church.

"It's a prayer service," he explains. "If you have a special intention, you pray for this with the hope of receiving your request. I was praying for a suitable partner."

Three months later, his prayers were answered. He met Juliette McIntyre from New Brunswick and in 1954 they married. They enjoyed 48 years of marriage until Juliette died in March of 2002.

Licari explains how the couple spent their first five years of marriage living with his parents and describes the relationship as "very harmonious."

"Juliette learned everything," he says, "Italian cooking, traditions, habits and culture."



Angelo and Juliette enjoyed 48 wonderful years together.

now St. Anthony's School. Licari also organized over 100 dances, including the famous annual picnic, to help immigrants socialize.

Never one to wait for someone else to lead, Licari took the initiative on many projects. He initiated citizenship evenings and free income tax services. He also came up with the idea to memorialize the Società Figli d'Italia pioneers. He arranged chauffeurs to drive the pioneers – all between the ages of 90 and 100 – to St. Anthony's Church Hall where the historical picture was taken. Afterwards, he served the pioneers brandy. The photo still hangs in the church basement.

"You've got to realize that it was pretty amazing for someone at the age of 16 to have an interest in joining such an organization," says Stella (Panetta) Licari, one of his seven children.

"I made a solemn vow to the pioneers that I would maintain, preserve and promote Italian culture," says Licari.

Licari was an altar boy at St. Anthony's Church for 15 years; the church became a "second home." He served mass every morning at 7 a.m. and then again at the Benediction in the evening. There were many priests and all three of the altars were used each morning for saying mass. Today only one altar is used. Licari remem-

bered from my beloved wife. I can't explain the emptiness I feel without her."

"I was the only child, but Juliette was from a large family of 12 and was accustomed to large family gatherings. We entertained often with Juliette playing the piano and the guests singing along. Our house was always full of joy and laughter."

On top of all the work Angelo Licari did for his community, he had a successful 40-year career with the government in-

cluding the Department of External Affairs where he worked as a Foreign Service Officer. He visited over 20 countries and "had the pleasure of visiting Italy several times." In the interest of promoting international trade, he introduced Canadian business people to government officials in other countries, and escorted foreign officials and industry representatives when they visited

Canada.

Without fail, Licari returned home from a trip bearing gifts: silk from Thailand, lladros (distinctive porcelain figurines) from Spain, and always jewelry for Juliette.

Now retired for the past 14 years, Licari keeps busy by spending time with his large family (he has seven children and 18 grandchildren), composing poetry, gardening and reading.

Angelo Licari raised his family on Preston Street, living next door to his parents and only leaving after his father died at the age of 102 in 1996. Domenico Licari was very proud of his roots and despite the changing face of Preston into a more commercial street, refused to leave. So Angelo and Juliette stayed as well.

All of Angelo Licari's family have remained in Ottawa and often meet for family gatherings.

Licari is still very involved with the community. He's a director of the Preston Street BIA (Business Improvement Association) and an enthusiastic supporter of Italian Week.

"Italian Week is very close to my heart," he says. "It's setting a good example for our children and grandchildren. It's the cultural highlight of the year and all Italians should attend with great pride."

Licari says that Villa Marconi is something else to be proud of because "it demonstrates to Ottawa that Italians are united and successful. It's a symbol of unity and strength."

"I recall my father and his friends often dreaming and talking about a Villa Marconi," says Licari.

When asked what his advice to the Italian community would be, he says: "Participate in Italian activities, keep culture fresh, buy a subscription to Italian newspapers so that you're informed of all the community events. To young people, I would say get a good education. Our's is a land of magnificent opportunity but that opportunity is only available provided you have a good education."

Angelo Licari's children have learned the lesson well – they understand how important it is to preserve their Italian heritage for future generations. Michael Licari has named his own son Angelo Terzo Licari. There is no doubt there will some day be an Angelo Settimo Licari.



Angelo Licari served as an altar boy for 15 years. (On left) he assists Father Ferraro in saying mass when the president of Italy, Giovanni Gronchi, visited St. Anthony's Church in 1956.

Community / Comunità

Settimana Italiana

Getting Ready for "Opening Night"

By Tessa Derksen

As any good theatre company knows, a magical opening night only happens after an incredible amount of work has gone on behind those velvet curtains.

After attending the planning meeting for the 29th Settimana Italiana (Italian Week), I discovered that preparing for this festival rivals any production of *Phantom of the Opera* or *Miss Saigon*.

The organization and coordination that must happen behind the scenes of this annual event involves: notifying the proper authorities of street closures (i.e. emergency crews, OC Transpo), obtaining permits from the Health Department and Liquor Board (to sell food and beverages), organizing parking, and getting the word out to the Italian community and community at large about the various events and attractions.

Father Paul opened the dinner meeting with a blessing, in which he welcomed everybody to St. Anthony's Church and thanked them for volunteering their time towards Ottawa's biggest Italian festival.

"Volunteers are so important to this community," he said. "Without them, we couldn't have this event."

There were approximately 40 people in attendance, including representatives from the Italian Festival Organization, the BIA, the Knights of Columbus, the Police Ven-

tures, the Ottawa Police, OC Transpo, Councillor Elisabeth Arnold's office, local businesses, St. Anthony's Church, the City of Ottawa, and the Italian Community Centre.

This year's Settimana Italiana will be similar to last year's festival with a few notable changes.

On Thursday, June 5, the festival will be officially launched at City Hall. The following week will include such time-honoured favourites as bocce and soccer tournaments, the bicycle race, the Italian car parade, and of course, plenty of music, food and wine.

From June 6 to June 8, St. Anthony's Church and the Knights of Columbus will hold a celebration of St. Anthony's Feast.

"This program hasn't changed since 1913," joked Angelo Filoso, chair of the planning meeting, in reference to the traditional procession and mass. However, this year's program will also include entertainment at night, including a

beer garden and dance music by DJ Rocco Micucci.

This year's festival has an exciting new event certain to draw a big crowd – Ottawa's first ever Ferrari & Race Car Parade on Saturday June 7.

"This year's special addition of the Ferrari & Race Car Parade will highlight in particular the ingenuity and state-of-the-art technology developed by the Italian race car and automotive industry," says Mayor Chiarelli, in a letter of support to Settimana Italiana President Orazio Rizzi and Ferrari Committee Chair Enrico Valente.

Although the Ferrari event is being dubbed a "race," safety and security reasons prohibit such a thing down Preston Street.

"We're calling it a race to add to the excitement," said Valente. "It will look like a race with the same pros who work on

the Formula One, a pace car, flags and barriers. I get goose bumps just thinking about the noise of the engines."

Another new addition to this year's festival will be the official opening of the Canadian Museum of Civilization's exhibit: "Presenza: A New Look at Italian Heritage" on June 12. (See page 9 for an interview with the curator, Dr. Mauro Peressini.)

Settimana Italiana finishes on June 15. But don't worry, you can rest assured that on June 16 the volunteers will begin planning for next year's festival.

Be sure to look for the Settimana Italiana program in *Il Postino's* June issue. We encourage everybody to come out and celebrate our community's Italian culture and language. The volunteers make this event happen, but it is with the community's support that it becomes a true celebration.



Paolo Casagrande Onorato con il

"Lifetime Achievement Award"

Di Luciano Pradal

La città di Ottawa ha onorato Paolo Casagrande con il "Lifetime Achievement Award" per il contributo essenziale dato alla comunità durante i suoi 40 anni di servizio con il Corpo dei Pompieri della Città di Ottawa e i 30 anni come Direttore della Banda dei Pompieri, che è oggi la rappresentante ufficiale della Città di Ottawa.

Alla serata per la presentazione di questo eccezionale riconoscimento, tenutasi al Centurion Hall il 31 marzo scorso, erano presenti i più alti rappresentanti, in Grande Uniforme Ufficiale, del Corpo dei Pompieri e delle Misure d'Emergenza per la Protezione Civile della Città di Ottawa, insieme ad un folto ed elegante pubblico d'amici e familiari. Durante la stessa bellissima serata, la nuova Città di Ottawa ha voluto riconoscere quelli che hanno prestato servizio per 25-30-35 anni nel Corpo dei Pompieri e delle Misure d'Emergenza per la Protezione Civile.

La citazione per quello che Paolo Casagrande ha portato a compimento durante la sua vita nel Corpo dei Pompieri ha sotto lineato che "Paolo ha lavorato per giorni, settimane, e letteralmente anni (30 anni) per la promozione della città di Ottawa e del Canada."

Rick Larabie, Capo dei Pompieri della Città di Ottawa, ha ricordato come Paolo Casagrande, nel suo ruolo di rappresentante della Banda Ufficiale, abbia "portato un grande beneficio alla Città di Ottawa ed alla nuova, amalgamata Città stessa."

Steve Kanellakos, Direttore Generale delle Misure d'emergenza e dei Servizi per la Protezione Civile, ha fatto eco dicendo che "Questa riconoscenza è un'eccezionale opportunità per la Città di riconoscere e dir



Paolo Casagrande (centro), destinatario di una ricompensa per "Lifetime Achievement Award," è circondato da amici e familiari.

grazie a Paolo poiché è gente come Paolo che, con il loro lavoro, rendono migliore la nostra Città!"

Gia' da molti anni la Banda dei Pompieri della Città di Ottawa partecipa alla sfilata dei pompieri per la raccolta di giocattoli per i bambini bisognosi, per la Gray Cup, per la raccolta di fondi per l'Ospedale dei Bambini, per la ormai tradizionale colazione del Sindaco con i cittadini, per villa Marconi e per gli Anziani del Villaggio di Westboro. La Banda è la favorita della comunità Italiana di Ottawa ed è tradizionalmente presente alla processione delle festività di Sant'Antonio e ad altri eventi speciali.

Internazionalmente, la Banda ha rappresentato Ottawa ed il Canada in celebrazioni militari oltre Oceano: ha suonato per il 40mo (1985) e il 50mo (1995) Anniversario della liberazione dell'Olanda, a Ortona al cimitero dei Caduti Canadesi, a Roma, a Pieve di Soligo (Treviso) ed in molte altre città e villaggi in Italia (2001) e nella regione del Mare Baltico in Germania.

Paolo Casagrande e la sua Banda hanno risposto a numerose domande della comunità, come quando, nel 1990, egli e la sua Banda, a proprie spese, hanno visitato New York e West Palm Beach in Florida, per vantare i meriti di portare la Lega Nazionale di Hockey a Ottawa.

Una riconoscenza ben meritata per il nostro Paolo Casagrande che ha sempre lavorato molto umilmente. Paolo, per noi sei e sempre sarai un inimitabile esempio di dedizione, di disponibilità e di tenacia per gli ideali altruisti che ti sei prefisso e che hai così attivamente portato avanti. La comunità, la Città di Ottawa e il Canada ti devono molto!

Congratulazioni e grazie Paolo!

Arts / Arte

Un Ballo in Maschera

Verdi's Beautiful Ball

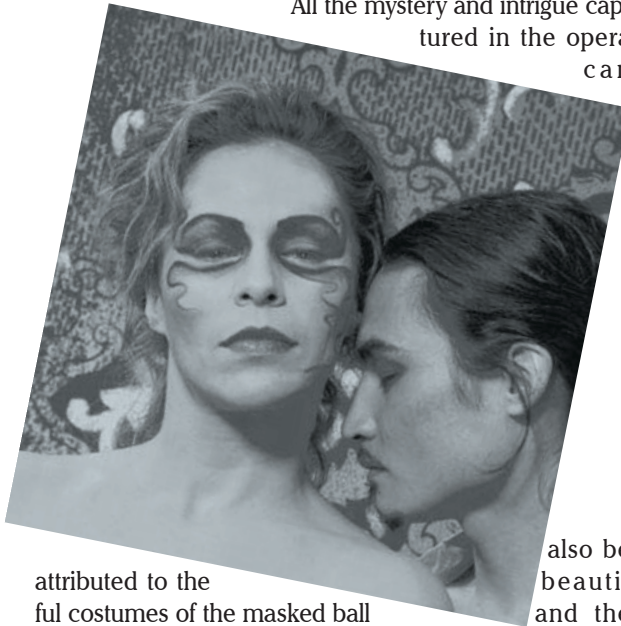
By Chiara Mingarelli

The room darkens as the lights start dancing on the curtains in the National Arts Centre's Southam Hall – the audience eagerly awaits another Giuseppe Verdi masterpiece from Opera Lyra Ottawa. This may be far from the first production of *Un Ballo in Maschera*, at Teatro Apollo in Rome (1859), but the reaction from the audience is much the same. Verdi's opera is definitely a resounding success.

Conductor Tyrone Paterson joined Opera Lyra from the Czech Republic after the première of Verdi's *Giovanna D'Arco*, a rarely performed opera. The cast members have equally impressive resumés and are no strangers to Opera Lyra. Gaétan Laperrière delivered an extremely moving performance as Renato (Governor Riccardo's best friend and secretary), who is ultimately betrayed by his wife and the governor in a twist of fate. Jackalyn Short, who played Riccardo's loyal page Oscar, also delivered an impressive performance. She has one of the most beautiful voices Ottawa has seen in a long time. Warren Mok's interpretation of Riccardo was equally astounding, moving the audience to tears on several occasions.

The opera was so captivating that at the intermission you could not help but look at the program to see what would happen next.

All the mystery and intrigue captured in the opera can



also be attributed to the beautiful costumes of the masked ball and the set. The stage had an almost magical ability to morph from scene to scene. It was really quite spectacular to see the governor's house turn into the shady backside docks in less than one minute.

However, you must not forget the most important part

of *Un Ballo in Maschera* – the music. The National Arts Centre's orchestra really outdid themselves under the baton of Paterson. A standing ovation was given to all on opening night and I'm sure was repeated for every production of Verdi's beautiful masterpiece.

Un Ballo in Maschera was the final production of Opera Lyra Ottawa's eighteenth season. Next fall, Opera Lyra presents Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*. Finally, returning to the stage after 10 years with Ottawa's Julie Nesrallah as Maddalena, will be Verdi's *Rigoletto*. Watch for that next spring. For more information about Opera Lyra Ottawa, please contact Barbara Bolton at 613.723.1919.

All the mystery and intrigue captured in the opera can be attributed to the beautiful costumes of the masked ball and the set. The stage had an almost magical ability to morph from scene to scene. It was really quite spectacular to see the governor's house turn into the shady backside docks in less than one minute.

Local Italian Artists Exhibit their Work

Story and photos by Danilo Velásquez



Rosaria Segreto, one of the Italian painters who participated in St. Mark's art exhibit.

On Saturday April 12, 2003, an art exhibit took place at St. Mark's Anglican Church on Fisher Avenue. Two local Italian painters, Matilde Brunetti and Rosaria Segreto, had the opportunity to participate and show their original artwork. The event was successfully attended by many art lovers who not only admired the work and artistic talent of the participants, but also bought some of their work.

According to one of the coordinators, the event has been organized successfully for the past 35 years by The Ladies Guild

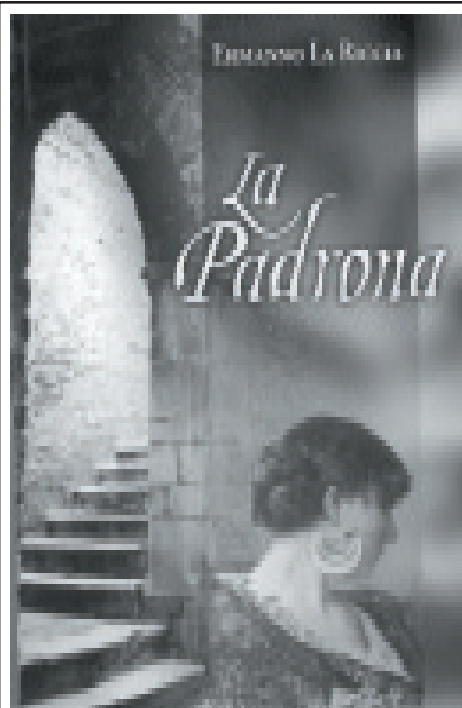
of St. Mark's Anglican Church.

The main objective of the event is to promote and recognize local artists in the Ottawa-Gatineau region and to give them a place where they can display their art. The event is also great for raising funds for the church. The funds are used for outreach within the community.

Matilde and Rosaria proudly posed for *Il Postino* beside some of their beautiful paintings. To view their artwork, make an appointment with the artists: Matilde (829.3204), Rosaria (723.1256).



Matilde Brunetti also participated in this community event, which has been held for the past 35 years.



Un Nuovo Libro di Ermanno La Riccia

La Padrona

“La Padrona” un libro appassionante, ove si raccolta una bella storia d’amore e la lotta di due giovani per conquistarsi la libertà di volersi bene.

Dopo i successi dei due libri di racconti “Terra Mia” e “Viaggio in Paradiso”, Ermanno La Riccia torna nelle librerie con un romanzo, “La Padrona”, una drammatica storia d’amore, piena di colpi di scena, scritta con un linguaggio semplice che si legge tutta di un fiato.

Si possono acquistare copie de “La Padrona” nella redazione del Postino oppure chiamate 567-4532

Languages for Peace International Language Teachers Meet

Story by Ivana Baldelli
Photos by Danilo Velásquez

On April 5, 2003, a professional development day for international language teachers called "Languages for Peace" was held.

Ms. Sheila Copps, the Minister of Canadian Heritage, met the staff of St. Rita's Italian Language School as she entered Ridgemont High School. She was very happy to be greeted in her third language, Italian. Of course, she is very fluent in this language and we were honoured that she used it in her presentation.

The opening remarks by the minister were motivating, challenging and inspirational to every one of the attending 600 instructors of the 30 various languages taught throughout the city of Ottawa.

She spoke of her personal involvement as a grade one student assigned to teach English words to her newly arrived immigrant friend, Beatrice Rossi, in Hamilton, Ontario. Certainly, it was from those early days that she realized the power of language and expression and respect for another person's culture.

Following the opening address, the teachers attended various sessions on a wide range of topics designed to assist them in their work once they returned to the classroom. For example, there were sessions on "Multitasking," "Dealing with Bullying," "Classroom Management," "Creative Writing," and "Internet for Language Learning." In total, 44 sessions were presented

between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Without a doubt, although most were experienced instructors, all 600 attendees learned new ideas and strategies.

*To have another language is to
possess a second soul...*

Charlemagne



Heritage Minister Sheila Copps with two teachers from St. Rita's Italian School: Lori Pasian and Maria Iaderosa.



ABOVE: Heritage Minister Sheila Copps with Philip Rocco, Director of Education for the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board, and St. Rita's Italian School Administrator Ivana Baldelli.



Maria Makrakis, Manager of the Catholic School Board's International Languages Program, Philip Rocco, and Minister Sheila Copps.

Scenes from the Juno Awards

Story by Gianni Cacciotti

Photos by Giovanni (*Capital Style Magazine*)

Rapper Snow, Heritage Minister Sheila Copps, Don Boudria and Mayor Chiarelli. The minister hosted a huge Juno party at the Museum of Civilization on Saturday, April 5, 2003. More than 1,500 invite-only guests packed into the museum's Grand Hall for a party that lasted until 3 a.m.



Giovanni and up-and-coming young artist Sean Desmond (BMG).



Avril Lavigne (BMG) with MP Larry McCormick on Parliament Hill. Lavigne was presented with the Diamond Record Award and won four Junos.



InEssence (BMG), a popular hip-hop group, were one of the groups that played at Minister Sheila Copps' big Saturday-night bash.



Tom Cochrane (EMI) with Laurie Peters of the NCC. Tom Cochrane, one of this year's Canadian Hall of Fame inductees, performed at the Junos.



The catering team behind all the Juno parties, Signatures by Le Cordon Bleu Paris.



Guy LaFlame, the man credited with bringing the Junos to Ottawa, toasts the opening ceremonies at the train station. On left, Don Boudria, Mayor Chiarelli and far right, president of the NCC, Marcel Beaudry.

Presenza: A New Look at Italian-Canadian Heritage

Story by Krista Walsh

Photos by Harry Foster, Canadian Museum of Civilization



Sicilian cart, painted by Antonio Torrisi, depicts the family trees of two families joined by marriage.



Organetto, made by Ruggieri.



Pignata, terracotta pot, circa 1900.



Carved walking stick, made by Alessandro Pellichero.



Coffee grinder, Italy 1920's.



Pizzelle iron, date unknown. Immigrants often brought tools needed to recreate the essentials of their region's cuisine.

The countdown for the new exhibition on Italians in Canada has begun. On the evening of June 12, the Canadian Museum of Civilization will declare "Presenza: A New Look at Italian-Canadian Heritage" officially open. The exhibition will include more than 300 artifacts, which took a lot of hard work to collect.

"The first challenge when we began working on the exhibition three or four years ago was that we had no collections – we had maybe five to ten objects. We pretty much started with nothing," says Dr. Mauro Peressini, curator of the exhibition.

Dr. Peressini personally took charge of the research in Montreal, while establishing a network of collaborators in other parts of Canada from Vancouver to the Maritimes. However, the collaborators and the possibility for artifacts were not only in big cities such as Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver, but also the small towns like Thunder Bay, St. Mary's and Sarnia. The search began.

The collaborators put the word out, asking the Italian community for artifacts that would help with the exhibition. Italian-Canadians everywhere sent photos with accompanying descriptive text. Soon the exhibition team had close to 2000 photos of items, ranging from documents of immigration, such as passports and immigration papers, to material objects like furniture and musical instruments. All the objects and photos then had to be catalogued. This whole stage took approximately a year and a half.

The next step: developing the concepts and selecting the artifacts. This process took quite a few months. Dr. Peressini and his team divided the exhibition into seven zones or "little universes." Two of the zones are on the values and traditions surrounding "Food," while the others are on "Work" (two zones), "Social Life" (two zones) and "Spirituality" (one zone).

The exhibition concentrates on the first generation of immigrants and on the traditions and values that they brought from Italy to Canada, which are still relevant to Italian-Canadians today. The exhibition team chose artifacts that revealed the most about these traditions and values. For example, they chose artifacts that demonstrated the values of immigrants who came from societies where families and communities worked together to complete a project, like during harvest time.

"The artistic value and the prestige of the artifacts were not the main criteria for choosing an object," says Curator Mauro

Peressini. "The real question was: 'Does this object express the message we want to communicate in this zone?'"

For example, a woman brought in a wedding dress, later to be placed in one of the "Social Life" zones. To look at, it's just a dress; however, it's the story of the dress that makes it worth exhibiting.

"The dress had been made by her mother," Dr. Peressini explains, "but her aunt would come to help, as well as her sisters and her cousins. This dress becomes more than just an object, it is now an example of strong cooperation values."

Another example is in one of the "Work" zones, where the value of taking the time you need to properly make an object is underlined. The artifact looks like an ordinary knife, but a closer look reveals a certain work ethic because the creator

"These exhibits will be very engaging and give a realistic view as to Italian heritage, values and traditions," says Curator Mauro Peressini. Seen here (on right) with one such exhibit, a Fiat 500, talking to owner Giuseppe Amendola.



took the time to add very intricate carvings.

Not only objects can be seen in the exhibition. Each of the seven zones uses three means in which to communicate its message. In addition to artifacts with text, there are also audio dramatizations and videos.

The audio dramatizations give life to fictional Italian-Canadians. An example is in one of the "Food" zones. The parents of a teenage boy are away and the boy invites his girlfriend home for supper. The girl is very interested in homemade foods and knows that his parents always prepare such meals. But the son knows nothing about making food, so he calls his mother to help him prepare the supper. Museum visitors get to "listen in" on their phone conversation.

The videos feature real Italian-Canadians, either in an interview setting or doing something such as preparing food or working (carving for example). It took four or five different trips across Canada and four months to record all of these videos.

"These exhibits will be very engaging and give a realistic view as to Italian heritage, values and traditions," Dr. Peressini says.

In general, all this was done without too many troubles. But the exhibition team did encounter a problem in conveying some relatively abstract ideas to the public. Messages such as the relevance of the heritage and traditions the Italian immigrants brought with them to Canada are not so easily conveyed. Fortunately, the exhibition team worked with a group of designers from Quebec City, Cinémanima, who came up with some original solutions, such as the audio dramatizations, to give a better idea as to what the zones represent.

The project was not all work. Dr.

projects about Italian-Canadians since the 1980's so when the museum asked him to work on ideas for an exhibition he promptly agreed. For some second-generation Italian-Canadians, the people that accounted for 95 percent of the Italian immigrants to Canada are seen as something to forget because they weren't "modern." This was the idea against which the exhibition was designed. Dr. Peressini was surprised by the enthusiasm of many Italian-Canadians when they discovered that the main idea of the exhibition was to give value to some aspects of their old traditions and cultures by showing its relevance for today's world.

Dr. Peressini had to ask himself: "How can I put together an exhibition that shows to the contrary that many parts of these values and traditions are relevant to modern citizens? What are the main concerns of contemporary society?"

The exhibition concept took place by answering these questions.

For example, when it comes to food, many modern people place a lot of importance on organic foods and regaining control of what they eat. These values of today relate to the values that immigrants brought with them from Italy, which they conveyed through making cheese and pasta at home or growing fruits and vegetables in their home gardens. Today at work many people complain that they do not have enough time to complete a project properly and as a result their work is not as satisfying as it could be. In contrast, many Italian immigrants who came as craftsmen and craftswomen brought with them the importance of investing the time a specific work would need in order to be well done.

Another example is that in modern society solitude and individualism are often sought as an escape from the hectic pace of city life. Italian immigrants brought to Canada a strong emphasis on social relations, family and friends, mutual aid, festivals and especially on a sense of community.

Curator Mauro Peressini explains the concept of his project simply: "We started with 'today' and went back to the past, using it as a tool box."

So much time and effort has been put into this project that everyone, of Italian and non-Italian origin alike, is greatly looking forward to the final outcome. The exhibition opens to the public on June 13, 2003, corresponding with the Italian Festival's final weekend, and will run for 15 months until September 6, 2004.

L'histoire fascinante de l'huile d'olive

Par Krista Walsh

Qu'y a-t-il au sujet de la nourriture que les gens trouvent tellement intéressant? Est-ce que c'est l'histoire de la nourriture, les utilisations qu'elle a, la mythologie derrière elle, ou simplement le goût? Si c'est seulement *un* de ces aspects qui attirent les personnes à un certain aliment, qu'arriverait-il s'il y avait une nourriture qui contenait tous ces aspects? L'huile d'olive est le meilleur exemple d'une telle nourriture.

Selon la mythologie grèque, le premier olivier a été trouvé dans la région de la Méditerranée. Dans la ville d'Attica, un débat a fait rage pour décider du nom de la ville. Le dieu Poséïdon, le dieu de la Mer, a voulu que la ville soit nommée après lui, pendant qu'Athéna, la déesse de la Sagesse, a voulu que son nom soit utilisé. Ils ont décidé que les deux donneraient un cadeau au peuple de la ville et celui qui donnerait le meilleur cadeau donnerait son nom à la ville. L'histoire continue avec Poséïdon qui frappa une roche avec sa lance et créa une source d'eau salée. Après, Athéna planta sa lance dans la terre et cette lance devint un olivier. Les citoyens ont préféré



Photo: Andrea Brennan

l'arbre à la source et la ville est devenue ainsi notoire à travers le monde en tant qu'Athènes. Depuis ce jour, il y a toujours eu un arbre à ce même endroit. A partir de ce moment et cela pendant longtemps,

ce fût un crime que d'endommager un olivier et ceux qui furent trouvé coupables étaient condamnés à l'exil ou à la mort.

Pendant les siècles qui suivirent, l'huile d'olive a été utilisée en différentes façons. Les citoyens ont brûlé de l'huile d'olive dans leur lanternes, créant ainsi de la lumière et de la chaleur. Les médecins ont incité leurs patients à consommer de l'huile pour traiter des maladies et ils ont appliqué de l'huile sur la peau pour guérir les blessures. Les Égyptiens, les Romains et les Grecs ont utilisé l'huile pour l'hygiène personnelle comme les parfums. Aussi, pendant les guerres et durant les jeux, une couronne des branches d'olivier était mise sur la tête des gagnants.

Dans les temps anciens l'huile a été aussi considérée comme un cadeau approprié pour les dieux, une croyance qui existe encore aujourd'hui. Dans les pratiques religieuses, les objets et les personnes saints sont bénits avec de l'huile avant qu'ils soient présentés à Dieu.

L'huile d'olive est aussi présente dans la Bible. Dans l'histoire de Noé et de l'arche, par exemple, une colombe a

apporté un branche d'olivier pour indiquer la fin de l'inondation. Le Seigneur a aussi expliqué à Moïse comment créer un onguent avec une combinaison d'épices et de l'huile d'olive.

Même aujourd'hui au XXI^e siècle, l'huile d'olive est utilisé dans nombreuses plats. Une technique qui a commencé plus tard dans l'histoire et qui continue encore aujourd'hui est celle d'utilisé l'huile d'olive comme une base pour les savons fins. Quelques familles continuent de l'utiliser pour des raisons médicales pour aider les muscles et les joints endoloris et les fièvres, et aussi pour réduire le malaise causé par des piqûres et des brûlures.

Les oliviers existent depuis des siècles et avec leur durée de vie de 300 à 400 ans, c'est probable qu'ils vont être en existence pour beaucoup d'autre années encore. L'huile qui est prise du fruit de ses arbres est, a toujours été, très valable pour la santé et a l'industrie. Avec ses valeurs nutritives et son histoire remontant à la Grèce antique, l'huile d'olive est une addition bien apprécié de tout repas.

Local Italian Success Story Vittoria Trattoria Opens Another Location

By Nicole Valentinuzzi



Photo: Photolux Studio

Interior of the new Vittoria Tratorria on Riverside.

The atmosphere in Vittoria Trattoria is one of romance and family. But most of all, from the food, to the wine, to the accent, it is undisputedly Italian.

Vittoria Trattoria has enjoyed a prosperous tradition in the Byward Market for the past seven years. So successful in fact that they recently opened a new location on Riverside Drive, making them one of Ottawa's first local Italian chains.

Domenic, one of the three Santaguida siblings that own the restaurant, says Vittoria Trattoria is a success because, "We offer good service and value that is unique to Ottawa."

The brainchild of Domenic, Cesare and Francesca

Santaguida, Vittoria Trattoria has the unique distinction of being completely family owned and operated.

"We know what our customers want and we give it to them," says Domenic.

Each Santaguida has a different role within the business. Cesare handles the design aspect, Francesca deals with staffing and management, and Domenic says he "takes care of everything else." Not to mention, both Domenic and Cesare cook.

"A lot of places have an owner that's never around the restaurant, but customers can tell the difference here. Chain restaurants don't have a face to them," says Domenic. "We make sure that one of us is usually at the restaurant," he adds.

The restaurant has earned repeated good reviews and people are always raving about the service and the food. The restaurant has a wood-burning stove, or *forno*, for the authentic Italian touch. However, it is possible that the most celebrated aspect of Vittoria Trattoria is the wine selection.

The restaurant is widely known in Ottawa for its wine list, which consists of over 500 different types of wine from all different areas of the world, not just Italy. The wine cellar also has seating for 10.

"Wine is one of the focuses," says Domenic. "We are passionate about wine because getting good quality wine in a restaurant is hard to come by, unless you are willing to pay high prices."

What sets Vittoria Trattoria apart from other restaurants with an extensive wine list is the lower price, greater selection, and better opportunity to actually try a variety of different wines in one sitting.

"We offer every type of wine by the glass, including sherry, white port, dessert wines and ice wine, where

most restaurants only offer certain ones by the bottle," says Domenic. "That way people can try out any type to see what they like."

Vittoria Trattoria also has a long reputation for community work, including scholarships the restaurant has awarded to Algonquin College students. It has made many contributions to charity events, such as the Microsoft Run for Reach event.

Domenic says community work is important to the restaurant. Fostering new talent is also a number one priority.

"We give out scholarships because everyone has gone high-tech and the service and trades industries aren't treated as careers anymore," he says.

He believes it is important for students to realize that the service industry is just as important as any other profession.

Vittoria Trattoria's new location on Riverside Drive created 45 more jobs for the area.

Domenic says, "The Riverside restaurant has seen new clientele, mostly south-end suburban crowd: downtown there are more tourists and business people."

And in the evenings, a large bar area makes it a popular spot for twenty-somethings.

But while they may have different clientele, the new restaurant still follows the strict traditions of quality set by the original Vittoria Trattoria in the Market.

Domenic says, "The restaurant feels homey. And it's that personal touch that makes the difference."

Vittoria Trattoria is meant to mirror the small-town traditional restaurants scattered all over the Italian countryside.

"In Italy, when you go into a restaurant, it is basically just someone taking you into their home," says Domenic. "That's what we want to offer people."

Opinion / Opinione

La Caduta degli Dei

Di **Ermanno La Riccia**
pubblicato nel *Corriere Italiano*

Non c'è peggiore umiliante sottomissione per un popolo quando è costretto ad acclamare e adorare il suo capo come se fosse un dio. La storia dell'ultimo secolo appena trascorso ce ne ha dato degli esempi eclatanti. Hitler che credeva nella superiorità della razza, che aveva in mente di diventare il padrone dell'Europa era un dittatore spietato adorato ed idolatrato dai suoi accoliti perché faceva paura a tutti. Benito Mussolini che per venti anni ha imbavagliato l'Italia, mortificando la nostra intelligenza e la nostra millenaria cultura, trascinò l'Italia in una guerra che ebbe come risultato distruzioni e morte. Giuseppe Stalin, il mitico «Baffone» dal pugno di ferro che aveva creato il regno della paura trasformando la Russia in un immenso Lager arrivò al punto di credersi immortale.

Tutti idoli che hanno creato dei grandi disastri in seno all'umanità ma la cui caduta è stata salutare perché ha portato in seno ai popoli di mezzo mondo non solo una pace duratura ma anche la democrazia accompagnata dalla scoperta e dal consolidamento dei diritti dell'uomo.

Sarà la stessa cosa con Saddam Hussein? Il dittatore dell'Irak è caduto dal suo piedistallo proprio in questi giorni per opera degli eserciti della Coalizione Stati Uniti d'America e Inghilterra che, con una guerra lampo, durata appena tre settimane, lo hanno messo al tappeto spodestandolo dal suo trono lordo di sangue e di lacrime del suo popolo oppresso.

Che Saddam Hussein si credeva un idolo, una specie di dio, lo testimoniano i tanti monumenti in suo onore innalzati in tutte le piazze delle città dell'Irak. E i quadri con la sua effigie riempivano non solo tanti muri delle città ma erano di rigore in tutti gli uffici pubblici. E i tanti cittadini, per ripararsi dalle ire del dittatore, arrivavano a mettere la sua effigie persino in camera da letto. La cosa più umiliante si è vista nell'ultima apparizione fatta in una piazza di Bagdad, dove non solo è stato portato in trionfo ma si son visti molti uomini che gli baciavano la mano. Egli per 25 anni ha regnato con l'arma del terrore. La sua guardia repubblicana era formata da spietati aguzzini che ammazzavano senza pietà tutti coloro che si mostravano contrari al Rais ed alle sue leggi.

E la devozione dei suoi generali e dei suoi ministri? Era tutta gente ossequiosa che davanti alla gravità della situazione non faceva una grinza. Il ministro degli esteri che va a difendere il suo campo in tutte le cancellerie più importanti pur sapendo che il suo capo mentiva. Il Vice-presidente che ha il coraggio di recarsi dal Papa per perorare la causa del suo paese quando sa benissimo che nell'Irak i diritti dell'uomo su cui si fonda la religione

cattolica e tutta la vera civiltà occidentale, sono stati sempre calpestati, anzi non sono mai esistiti.

E il famoso ministro dell'Informazione che tutte le sere faceva la sua apparizione alla televisione ingannando il suo popolo con notizie false. Quando gli americani stavano per arrivare a Bagdad proclamava che le forze del Male erano state sconfitte.

E lo stesso Hussein quando l'acqua gli stava arrivando veramente alla gola proclamò la guerra santa invitando tutti i paesi arabi e i volontari ad aiutare l'Irak perché, era convinto che il suo esercito con l'aiuto di Allah avrebbe riportato la vittoria.

Ora se l'America ha vinto una importante battaglia non ha finito la guerra perché deve compiere una parte importante del suo mandato: conquistare la pace, il che non è facile.

Tutti idoli di cartapesta che al primo soffio di vento son crollati al suolo. Ed insieme a loro son crollati anche altri finti idoli che vivono fuori dell'Irak e che hanno avversato l'America in tutte le maniere dando l'impressione al dittatore dell'Irak che mezzo mondo era al suo fianco. E parliamo del presidente francese Jacques Chirac, del tedesco Gerhard Schroeder, e del presidente russo Putin che, senza dubbio, hanno mal digerito la caduta del dittatore dell'Irak per opera dell'America. Ci sono stati tanti di questi piccoli idoli, soprattutto nella vecchia Europa, che si son strappati le vesti per non andare in guerra con l'America e oggi, dopo la vittoria, le brucerebbero tutte per partecipare al dopo guerra. Chirac, Schroeder e Putin si sono riuniti per decidere cosa fare per attuare il colpo e cercare di entrare per la spartizione della torta.

Ora se l'America ha vinto una importante battaglia non ha finito la guerra perché deve compiere una parte importante del suo mandato: conquistare la pace, il che non è facile.

La vittoria di Bush e Blair se ha dato un grosso scossone al terrorismo mondiale ha prodotto delle forti scosse

telluriche in altri settori della vita internazionale.

La prima riguarda le Nazioni Unite le quali non hanno affatto brillato nel dossier riguardante l'Irak. L'ONU ne esce a pezzi da questo conflitto e si spera che Bush e Blair non calchino la mano sul suo futuro. Qualcuno già sta ventilando l'idea che occorre una grande riforma. Bisognerebbe far entrare nel consesso mondiale solo i paesi democratici. Rivedere i poteri del Consiglio di Sicurezza. Tutti sono col fiato sospeso per vedere quali sono i passi che faranno America e Inghilterra.

In secondo luogo arriva l'Europa che esce da questa vittoria profondamente divisa. La Francia soprattutto, che ha cercato di mettersi a capo di una coalizione, ha perduto la partita sia come fiducia e sia come credibilità. Schierandosi dalla parte dell'Irak, è vero, ha cercato di fare i suoi interessi, ma è finita per dare un calcio a quell'Unione Europea che solo ora andava compiendo passi sicuri per una più ampia unificazione. Infatti irrigidendosi contro l'America non ha fatto altro che creare divisioni e lacerazioni difficilmente ricucibili.

Tutto questo non si può comparare con lo shock ricevuto dal mondo arabo. La Lega Araba che aveva condannato la guerra e che aveva inviato anche dei volontari a combattere contro gli americani si è ritrovata profondamente divisa e sbriciolata.

I Palestinesi che combattono contro Israele e che avevano inviato in Irak anche dei volontari kamikaze, sono rimasti profondamente sorpresi dalla velocità con cui è stato abbattuto il loro idolo Saddam Hussein.

La guerra non è ancora finita e tutti parlano di voler andare ad aiutare gli irakeni a convertirsi alla democrazia. C'è un mare di petrolio nelle viscere di quella terra e tutti, inclusi i francesi, hanno fatto un pensierino su quel petrolio. Dimenticano facilmente, però, che la guerra l'hanno vinta l'America e l'Inghilterra che e non loro.

A Touch of Class Fashions

15% off prom/wedding dresses/wedding party/ mothers of bride or groom and formal evening wear.



Get a head start on your graduation or wedding

46 Murray Street (Time Square Building)
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5M4 (613) 244-0044

Il Postino is looking for writers...



Retired firefighters reading *Il Postino* at the Village Reunion.

write about your community, memories, opinions or tell story

write in English, Italian or French
send your articles and ideas to



www.ilpostinocanada.com

information@ilpostinocanada.com

IL POSTINO • OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA



ELISABETH ARNOLD

City Councillor / Conseillère municipale
Quartier Somerset Ward
www.ElisabethArnold.ca
www.city.ottawa.on.ca

Serving the Community Al Servizio della Comunità

Tel / tél.: 580-2484 fax / téléc.: 580-2524
Elisabeth.Arnold@city.ottawa.on.ca
Elisabeth.Arnold@ville.ottawa.on.ca
110, av. Laurier Ave. O./W., Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1
City 24 Hour Call Centre / Centre d'appel 580-2400

Il Signor Medugno ha il piacere d'annunciare a tutti gli amici della comunità italiana che si è associato a Coldwell Banker First Ottawa Realty.



Italo Medugno
Bilingual Sales Representative



First Ottawa Realty
Hampton Park Plaza
(613) 728-2664 / 24 Hours

italo-medugno@coldwellbanker.ca
A trusted name at your service

Se avete intenzione di vendere o comprare una proprietà, chiamatemi per un servizio competente e professionale.

EVENTI COMMUNITARI

Sunday, May 4th, 7:30 p.m.

Maria Pellegrini & Guests
Operatic Recital / Non-profit event
Church of St. Luke the Evangelist
760 Somerset St. West
Tickets \$20 @ door
Call 798.1479 for information

Monday, May 5th, 8:00 p.m.

Roberto Micconi
Organ Music from Venice
Église Saint-François-d'Assise
Wellington / Fairmont
Call 728.8041 for information

Italian Language Course

Italian 1000, an introductory course, will be offered from May 14 - August 8, 2003, Monday and Wednesday, at Carleton University.

For information call: 520.6612.

Quest'estate, per la prima volta dopo un intervallo di parecchi anni, l'Università Carleton offrirà un corso estivo d'italiano, Italian 1000, un corso per principianti.

Durata del corso: 14 maggio-8 agosto.

Orario : lunedì e mercoledì, ore 17,35- 20,25.

Per ulteriori informazioni si prega di chiamare il numero: 520.6612.

Saturday, May 10th

Festa della Madonna di Carpineto
St. Anthony's Church
427 Booth Street

Call Association Rapinese President
Lorenzo Micucci (731.3805) for more information.

Sunday, May 11th, 1 p.m.

Mother's Day Lunch
Villa Marconi
1026 Baseline Road
Call 727.6201 for information.

If you have an event you would like to publish, please call

(567.4532) or e-mail

(information@ilpostinocanada.com).

Remember, our next deadline is May 22nd.

Pellegrinaggio A Marmora

Sabato 10 maggio
Domenica 1 giugno
Sabato 12 luglio
Sabato 2 agosto

Sabato 6 settembre
Sabato 11 ottobre
Sabato 8 novembre
Sabato 6 dicembre

St. Ann Vicino Pembroke
Domenica 27 luglio
Madonna del Canneto
Domenica 17 agosto

Per informazioni
chiamate Raffaella
Plastino
224.4388.



Flaviano Ciancibello supports Villa Marconi

Villa Marconi Long Term Care Centre

Brick Wall Dedication in Marconi Centre Entrance



“Brick by Brick” Fundraising Capital Campaign

Newly elected Villa Marconi Executive Committee 2002-2003:

Executive		Directors	
President	Mario Giannetti	Joel Diena	Rocco Caminiti
First Vice President	Ross Talarico	Pina Giorgio	Gino Marrello
Second Vice President	Gino Buffone	Genoeffa Filoso	
Secretary	Angelo Filoso	Peter Scott	
Treasurer	Marcello Pecora	Angelo Fiore	
Past President	Luigi Mion	Luigi Bastianelli	
Ex-Officio	Dominic Ricci	Gino Micolini	

Thanks to those who have supported us so far! - Grazie del vostro aiuto!

Anna Bevilacqua
Maria Polito
Lucia Bevilacqua
Rinaldo Bevilacqua
Donna Bevilacqua
Mark Bevilacqua
Neneo & Angela Marano
Cesare & Mafalda Marano
Mario & Francine Marano
Lucas, Sophia, Sandra, Selena DiNardo
Marina DiNardo
Giuseppe & Daniele Costanzo
Patricia DiNardo
Angela Pizzutto
Dino & Rose Pizzutto
Ermannnd & Tina DiNardo
Anna Itarsan
Bell Canada
Igino Battosto & Domenica Battisti
Luigi Epifano & Christina Epifano
Carmela De Soiscio
Aristide & Maria D’Orazio
Silvana Zanchetta
Federico & Gina Millto
Maria C. Glieca
Antonio & Lina Glieca
Salvatore L’Orfano
Angelo Costanza
Biagio & Dorina Bianconi
Associazione Nazionale Alpini
Kiwanis Club of Rideau Inc.
Local Paving & Construction Co.
Paola Signoretti
Ludy’s Beauty Salon
Diodoro Giovannitti
Al Harb
Tony Rispoli
Fred & Muriel Ciaviglia
Luciano & Claire Pradal
Bernadetta Pentland
Rina Taucer
Gino & Nina Marrello
Angelo & Gaetana Pennella
Anthony Mangone
Saverio & Teresa Cesario
Frank Cesario
Angelo Tripudio
Giuseppe & Amelia Amendola
Silvana & Steno Cesario
Ameline Giammaria
Vallati Brothers Paving Limited
Rosalie Vigneron
Carmine Risi

Sal Nardone
Costa Kapsalis
Flaviano Ciancibello
Mario De Marinis
Joseph Ricclardi
Angelo & Cristina Fatica
Ezio & Anna Mariarin
Laborers’ Int. Union of N. America
Lise Chamberland
Tony Milo
Silco Electric Ltd.
Farah Asset Management
Form-all Construction Inc.
Ian Bevilacqua
Right Forming Limited
Tony & Nina D’Onofrio
Vittorio & Margareth Brunoni
Delio & Anna D’Angelo
Mario Giannetti
C. Buffone
P. & S. Buffone
L. & G. Buffone
Angelo & Rina Filoso
Preston Hardware
Luigi & Ada Mion
Rudy & Rita Mion
Dominic & Marcella Licari
Matteo & Anna Falcucci
Sisters of the Addolorata Servants of Mary
Victor and Margaret Brunoni
Gina & Lidonio Ricci
Antonio & Veneranda D’Onofrio
Nancy-Lou Prosperine
Jennie Prosperine
Filippo & Carmela Prosperine
Luigi Petti
Maria Pia Petti
Feliceantonio Petti
Pasquale Petti
Gelsomina Petti
The Servite Fathers
Padri Servi di Maria
Les Servites De Maria d’Ottawa
Chiesa di Sant’ Antonio
Kelly-Lizzi Family
Anna & Daniel Janigan
Ross Talarico
Tony Varriano
Pasquale & Divina Ginese
Raffaele & Rita Cesario
Eolo Bevilacqua
Joe & Jacqueline Adamo

Adua & Carmine Idone
Enrico & Giovanna Bulla
Giovanni & Marcellina Mion
In memory of Assunta Pennella
Lucia Antonietta De Marinis
Frank Vigneron
Lorenzo, Denise Lisa & Paolo Micucci
Mario Rilla & Carlo Micucci
Sergio & Renza Vial
Carlo & Nancy Vial
Rina Tarcer
Dominic & Mary Disipio
Enesto & Angelina Dinardo
Giovanni Saracino
Odile Saracino
Jean-Louis Saracino
Teresa Saracino
Capital Cutlery West
St. Anthony’s Ladies Aid
Brent & Craig Merrill
John & Gwen Merrill
Salvatore & Anna Giamberardino
Nick Giamberardino
Giovanni & Annina Imbrogno
Anna Marsan
Gabriela & Gabriella Giamberardino
Pina & Giovanni Giorgio
Antonio Della Penta
Mary Gatt
Lucio Appolloni
Appolloni Family
Mary Farah
Maria & Pasquale Adamo
Cav. Pasqualina Pat Adamo
Giuseppa & Cherubina Fatica
John & Betty Anne Ebbs
Alberto & Natalina Copelli
Dino Venier
Jill Hart
Nicola & Carmela Pietrantonio
Giovanni & Assunta Basile
Jules Sigler
Amedeo Zuana
Antonio & Angelica Renon
Famiglia Matilde Zinni
Romeo Toscano
In memoria di Fatica Maria in Tirabasso
Gustavo & Teresa Mion
J.E. De Marinis
Marsiniak/Giannini Family
Domenico & Mariella Licari
Rick & Susan Locatelli

Maria C. De Marinis
Saverio Marrello
Ralph & Betty Pentland & family
Giuseppe & Luigina Vial
William & Marie Wiebe
Centro Abruzzese
Roberto & Anna Giamberardino
Carmela Giamberardino
Carmine Giamberardino
Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Duford
Leonard Graham
Sapacon Drywall Limited
Saverio Giamberardino
Club Centro Italiano di Ottawa
John & Nives Mion
Alma Tissot & Family
Marco A., Stefano L., Carlo L. Mion
Labourers International Union, Local 527
Ivana Baldelli
Lise Charberland
133629 League Canada Inc.
Francesco & Antonio Divittorio
Claire Strong
Adelina Stihovic
Giuseppe & Luisa Vincelli
Anna Varriano & Gary Underwood
Louise Moldovan
Raffaella Plastino
Fogolar Furlan di Ottawa
Ezio Mannarin
Leo e Concettina Santoro
Hazel & Frank Porreca
Susan & Frank Porreca
In memory of Ralph J. Perri
Frank Ryan Elementary School
Maria Addario
Pierangela & Dan Rowan
Vittorio & Matilde Pagliarello
Chiabai Bros. Construction LTD
Vittorio & Giuditta Martignago
Anne Cullen & Bruno Carrera
Mary Pitt
Eleanor Romani Wildman
Luigi Giannetti
Corrado Nardone
Silvaroli Bambino
Italo Tiezzi
Aiello Flooring Inc. Gino & Maria
Franco & Maria Disipio & family
Muriel and Fred Ciavaglia
Rocco Colasante
Antonio Glieco

For information and for request forms contact - Per informazioni e formulari:

Villa Marconi

1026 Baseline Road ♦ Ottawa ♦ Ontario ♦ K2C 0A6
Telephone: 613-727-6201 ♦ Fax: 613-727-9352

E-mail: villamarconi@villamarconi.com
Web: http://www.villamarconi.com

IL POSTINO

Mystery

May 23-25

Civic Centre Theatre

THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS
THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

IL POSTINO

THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

THE MURDER OF THE MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

La Poesia

Mamma Tendimi La Mano

Di Alfredo Maiolo

Quando il pensare serale
mi porta lontano nel tempo,
un'immagine mi appare
tra le prime.
E il volto della mamma,
un dolce viso d'Angelo.
Prendo la foto ancora una volta,
per guardare l'opulenta bellezza
che si alternava e si fendea,
con quella della sua simpatia.
Un'infinità di ricordi
sono affiorati
nella mia mente:
Tanti.
Quando con la candida mano
Lei mi accarezzava,
ricordo pian, piano sfiorava
appena i miei neri capelli,
per non sciupare quell'attimo fuggente,
che esiste tra madre e figlio.
Lacrime scesero sul mio viso
e dalla gola uscì un gemito:
MAMMA tendimi la mano!
Ma l'immagine sorrise appena;
Poi spariva nell'oblio
della profonda notte.
Mentre la mia mano
Asciugava l'ultima lacrima
che si era fermata
tra le mie ciglia.



Poesia alla Madonna di Carpineto

Di Giuseppina Iezzi

A Rapino, paese del Chietino,
ogni anno l'otto maggio
alla Madonna di Carpineto
si rende omaggio.
Fu in quel giorno che
la Sua immagine
apparve sopra un carpino.
Un fanciullo pastorello
al parroco fece appello
perchè dell'accaduto lo volle avvisare,
ma la Madonna di Carpineto
in contrada "Piano" volle stare.
Fedeli vicini e lontani Le fanno onorificenza
per commemorare la pia ricorrenza.
Dalla Chiesa San Lorenzo s'avvia la processione
per raggiungere il luogo dell'apparizione.
Vestiti di bianco sfilano i pargoletti,
fingono da verginelle e angioletti,
ornati da monili d'oro
indossano simboli del loro dono.
Con canti e preghiere i fedeli La invocano
La lodano e La implorano.
Le rendono omaggio
ogni anno l'otto maggio.

Bonnie Favilla

Italian Telephone Directory



We are now accepting advertising for the 2003-2004 Edition of the
ITALIAN TELEPHONE DIRECTORY OF OTTAWA

Promote your business throughout
Ottawa and the surrounding area.

Accetiamo ora annunci commerciali per L'Edizione 2003-2004
DELL'ELENCO TELEFONICO ITALIANO DI OTTAWA

Un'ottima opportunità di reclamizzare
il vostro commercio ad Ottawa e
dintorni.

If you have moved recently, please call and update your new address for our next issue.

FOR ADVERTISING AND OTHER INFORMATION CALL BONNIE
TEL.: 738-0003 • FAX: 738-0003 (call first)





IL POSTINO

Photos: Angelo Filoso



Italian Week Fundraising Dinner Let's Party!



IL POSTINO • OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA