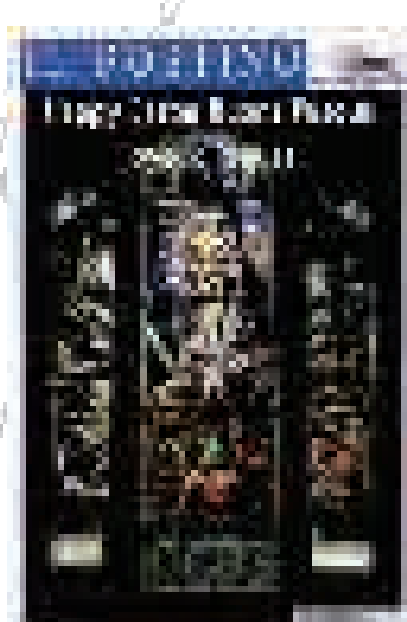


Third Anniversary
Troisième Anniversaire
Terzo Anniversario
“Sol lucet omnibus”



CUSTOMER NUMBER: 04564405
PUBLICATION AGREEMENT NUMBER: 1835041

Who Is Il Postino?

Publisher

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

Executive Editor

Angelo Filoso

Managing Editor

Chiara Mingarelli

Associate Editor

Nicolas Frate

Advertising Director

Marcus Filoso

Graphic Designer

Vlado Franovic

Layout & Design

Chiara Mingarelli

Web site Manager

Marc Gobeil

Printing

Winchester Print & Stationary

Contributors for this issue:

(in no particular order)

Nick Frate, Nello Bortolotti, Ariella DalFarra Hostetter, Luciano Pradal, Melodie Caruso, Guido Caruso, Dana Elford, Elise Van Herk, Associazione Emiliana, Danilo Velasquez, Josie Bellissimo

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

November 22, 2003

Il Postino is 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*.

Angelo Filoso:
Executive Editor

Angelo volunteers in countless community activities, from Villa Marconi to Italian Week. He is also the C.E.O. of Airmetrics Energy Systems.



Chiara Mingarelli:
Managing Editor

Chiara is a third year Math and Physics double major who assumed the role of Editor in June 2003. She enjoys reading and writing about a broad spectrum of topics explored in *Il Postino*.



Marcus Filoso:
Advertising Director

Marcus is a Restaurant Management Student who hopes to open his own business. He enjoys photography and is the new director for Italian Week.



Nick Frate: Associate Editor

Ottawa native Nick Frate is a Journalism student who hopes to be a novelist or screenwriter. He enjoys playing sports and volunteering in the community. This is Nick's first month at *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

I prefer to pay by: / *Scelgo di pagare con:*

- cash / *contanti* • cheque / *assegno*
- money order / *vaglia postale*

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

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

A Canadian Horse Is a Horse of Course

by Guido Caruso

The Canadian horse went from nearly extinct to nationally distinct. The tale of the Canadian horse is a fascinating one, and it begins with a man named Donald Prosperine, born December 31, 1926. In his early teens Donald Prosperine worked on a farm where he was introduced to horses. On the farm, Prosperine learned to care for the horses and in no time at all he developed a strong love for them. In 1950, Prosperine married Joyce Summers, and after having their first child Prosperine purchased a pony for the first born. Prosperine enjoyed showing his horses and at the time was driving Hackneys.

These hackneys were high-strung horses which were not very easy to handle. Enter Alex Hayward, good friend to Donald Prosperine. Hayward spoke of the Canadian horses with Prosperine at a meeting of the Eastern Ontario Pleasure Driving Society in 1977. Prosperine and Hayward were determined to bring back the breed to Ontario. However, Canadian horses were scarce to come by, so scarce in fact that there were estimated to be only some 400 registered Canadian horses in existence at the time – and majority of them were to be found in Québec.

To better understand the lack of Canadian horses at the time one must better understand their history. The Canadian horse traces its ancestry to the foundation stock brought to Acadia and New France in the seventeenth century. The first horses were ultimately caught and carried off in 1616 by Samuel Argall's marauding expedition from Virginia. The effective introduction of French horses into New France came in 1665 when Louis XIV sent two stallions and twenty mares from the royal stables to the colony. On the voyage eight of the mares were lost, but the king sent additional shipments; in 1667 fourteen or fifteen horses, and in 1670 a

stallion and eleven mares.

Thereafter, the king sent no more horses, as the colonial governor, Intendant Talon, considered there were now enough in the colony to furnish a dependable supply of colts to all in need of them.

Canadian horses found a ready market in the United States and were also shipped in great quantities to the West Indies. After the close of the American Revolution and until the War of 1812, many Canadian horses were taken into the United States, with a limited number remaining in Québec.

At some point in 1978, after an eighteen month search, Donald Prosperine would find a pair of the illusive horses. Windsor Rosie and Windsor Michette were purchased along with two additional mares in partnership with Hayward – and soon Prosperine and Hayward would begin breeding Canadian horses.

Prosperine was proud of his Canadian horses and it wasn't long before he was gracing family weddings, local fairs and official Ottawa functions

with his quality Canadians. Prosperine began showing in 1980, when he took a pair of Canadian horses to Saratoga Springs, New York.

In recent years the Canadian breed has received considerable acclaim as a carriage driving horse. A pair of Canadians, owned by Prosperine and Hayward, won the 1987 North American Pleasure Driving Pairs Championship, in addition to competing throughout Ontario and the northern United States in combined driving and coaching events.

Prosperine's horses could be seen virtually everywhere, from Scottsdale Farm, an equestrian centre where the television show "The Campbells" was filmed to the Ottawa Exhibition and even on Parliament Hill. Prosperine's Maple Lane Farm in Dunrobin, Ontario, became an attractive centre for promoting the Canadian horse.

His many contributions to the breed were recognized by the Canadian Horse Breeder's Association, where he was named "Mr. Canadian Horse" in 1987.

In the director's election of 1988, Prosperine was voted unanimously by his

peers and was largely responsible for the creation of an Upper Canada Division Association, representing those West of Québec who shared his interest in the Canadian horse.

Sadly, Donald Prosperine passed away on September 26th, 1989. He left behind a profound legacy with fellow horse enthusiasts and was considered a true pioneer of the Canadian horse breed. Ultimately, Hayward and Prosperine wanted to have the Canadian horse recognized as Canada's 'national horse'.

On April 30th, 2002 Bill S-22 received Royal Assent, and the Canadian horse was recognized as the national horse of Canada. This honour was perhaps among the best way to thank Donald Prosperine for his enthusiasm and devotion to the Canadian breed and also to celebrate his love for Canadian horses.

The Canadian horse is often described as a tough working horse, a dependable riding horse, a jumper, and a trotter with fine action. It is a placid little horse, solidly built with a long mane and big heart. Today there are about 4,000 registered Canadian horses in Canada and the U.S., the majority of them in Ontario.

Special thanks to Charlie Prosperine and members of his family for sharing the story of Donald Prosperine.

Sources:
INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HORSE BREEDS, By Bonnie L. Hendricks - Foreword by Anthony A. Dent, University of Oklahoma Press : Norman and London, C 1995

The Weekender, "Canada's national horse a cause for celebration", article by Sarah Trant. Pg. 20, December 6, 2002.

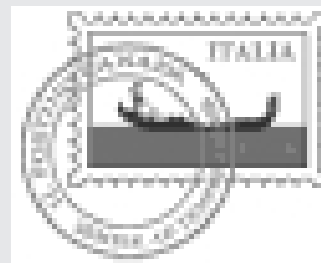
Canadian Geographic, "The 'Canadian Horse' is our very own, article by Gladys Mackey Beattie. Pg. 34-9, October/November 1982



Seen above are the horses the Prosperine family have helped become Canada's National Horse.



Visit us Online at
www.ilpostinocanada.com



Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa

Non sembra vero che siano trascorsi così tanti anni dal giorno in cui fu istituita la nostra Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa, eppure siamo già al quarto di secolo!

Questa associazione, nata dal desiderio di voler mantenere vivo le radici della nostra identità, è stata, per noi membri, un perno di riferimento molto importante. Tutti noi, seppur paghi e riconoscenti dei vantaggi che questa nuova terra ci ha offerto, non abbiamo tuttavia mai perso il senso profondo della cultura, dei valori e delle tradizioni della nostra terra nativa. L'associazione fu stabilita per poter rafforzare e far fiorire quei sentimenti che palpitavano nel nostro cuore. E durante questo quarto di secolo, tutti noi membri ci siamo reso conto di appartenere ineluttabilmente ad una stessa grande famiglia, e di conseguenza, abbiamo condiviso vari aspetti e varie circostanze di vita, sia in occasioni di allegria come pure di tristezza.

Riteniamo quindi opportuno voler far conoscere tramite questo articolo la storia della nostra associazione.

Dopo la fine della seconda guerra mondiale agli inizi degli anni cinquanta, stimolati delle ristrettezze economiche italiane, ebbe luogo una grande ondata migratoria verso altri paesi. Fra i tanti italiani che emigrarono, un gruppo di parmigiani e piacentini, da varie zone come Bardi, Bedonia, Borgotaro, Carpaneto, Fiorenzuola d'Arda, Lugagnano e Vernasca, si diressero oltre oceano verso Ottawa, la capitale del Canada. La maggior parte di questa prima generazione d'emigranti era ignara dei freddi intensi canadesi e sprovveduti anche in ciò che riguardava le lingue parlate localmente e i sistemi di lavoro. Ed era per di più timorosa senonchè piena di speranza che il passo fatto avrebbe portato buon frutto. Come se non bastasse, una volta insediati nel nuovo ambiente, la nostalgia dei buoni cibi, i ricordi delle serate passate in allegria con gli amici, e le avventure di caccia sui monti, suscitavano un certo senso di vuoto.

Ai primi tempi i contatti tra i nuovi arrivati, anche se provenienti dalle stesse zone, erano effettivamente inesistenti. Ma poco a poco si incominciò ad incontrarsi a casa degli amici per condividere qualche cenetta, e da lì scaturì poi l'idea di organizzare serate allargando sempre di più il gruppo.

I nostri cacciatori poi scoprirono che anche qui potevano riprendere la loro passione e svagarsi nella caccia e con l'abbondante selvaggina portata a casa si affaccendavano, insieme alle mogli, a cucinare piatti veramente squisiti. Di conseguenza si penso di fondare un club per il tiro al piattello, che esiste ancora e le cui attività avevano facilitato ulteriormente gli incontri e la conoscenza reciproca.

E così si gettarono le basi delle serate in allegra compagnia con piatti fumanti di polenta gialla con cervo e fagiani accompagnati da bicchieri di buon vino spesso fatto in casa. Al termine del pranzo veniva naturale la voglia di cantare le tradizionali canzoni: *Quel mazzolin di fiori*, *Romagna mia*, *La bella la va in cantina*. Tutti erano ammessi nel coro indistintamente, anche gli stonati, ed era ancor meglio se accompagnati da una chitarra o fisarmonica. Sognavamo di essere sui nostri monti!

Fu durante una di queste allegre serate d'autunno del lontano 1979, una serata veramente piena d'emozione e carica d'entusiasmo, che fu deciso di fondare la nostra Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa. Per i centocinquanta membri presenti fu un avvenimento davvero indimenticabile!

Fra le numerose attività che l'associazione mette in programma, quali cene-ballo, festa di carnevale, gare di bocce e di briscola, ce n'è una tutta particolare: il picnic annuale all'aria aperta. Picnic che ha preso ancor piu significato nell'anno in cui l'Associazione Emilia-Romagna di Montréal si unì alla nostra in segno di

fratellanza. Questo gemellaggio, che dura ormai da vent'anni, ci fa sentire ancora più emiliani.

Speriamo che questa panoramica storica riesca a far concepire ai giovani quello che l'Associazione simboleggia per noi "veterani". Pertanto li incoraggiamo a continuare le nostre tradizioni e, consapevoli dei cambiamenti di certe tendenze, usarle come fondamenta su cui costruirne delle nuove. È nostra speranza che l'Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa continui per molti anni ancora e che riesca a tenere vivo l'orgoglio delle nostre radici ed il senso di fraternità e solidarietà per le generazioni future, così come lo è stata per noi.

Il pranzo consisterà di:
Prosciutto al Balsamico
Parmigiano Reggiano Fritto
Fagottino di formaggio e tartufo in salsa di funghi
~
Ravioli alla reggiana con salvia e parmigiano
Lasagnetta in bianco al ragu di vitello con prosciutto e porcini
~
Pollo disossato e farcito in porchetta
Lombo di vitello steccato al prosciutto
~
Zuppa Inglese della Nonna
Semifreddo alla nutella con crema alle nocciole

LA NOSTRA GIOVENTÙ HA RISPOSTO ALL'APPELLO:

Per commemorare il ventiquesimo della fondazione dell'Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa, i membri hanno alacramente collaborato per portare a termine un progetto tutto speciale come lascito per le future generazioni, vale a dire la raccolta in un libro di numerose ricette usate dalle varie famiglie. Nel volume si annoverano anche una carrellata storica dell'Emilia Romagna, descrizione di alcuni caratteristici paesi e città e i loro tesori artistici, e il tutto è arricchito dai bellissimi disegni a matita eseguiti da un membro della nostra stessa associazione.

Il libro, risultato di tantissime ore di lavoro e d'impegno da parte di tanti, è esempio tangibile della collaborazione, amicizia, rispetto e solidarietà che esiste fra i soci della nostra Associazione.

Un aspetto molto importante di questo progetto è dato dal fatto che, per poterlo realizzare, ha richiesto l'intervento e la collaborazione di ben tre generazioni.

È vero che i libri di ricette culinarie dell'Emilia-Romagna sono tanti, però l'obiettivo principale di questo libro non è certamente quello di marcare il mondo della gastronomia, bensì di rendere testimonianza alle tradizioni culinarie di coloro che, una cinquantina d'anni fa, avevano lasciato l'Emilia-Romagna per poi stabilirsi qui ad Ottawa.

Evidentemente il fatto di trovarsi in un paese nuovo e la cui società è multiculturale come lo è il Canada, doveva prima o poi avere una certa influenza anche sulla nostra arte culinaria. È così che sfogliando il libro si troveranno ricette non esclusivamente emiliane, in quanto si è ritenuto opportuno incorporare anche quelle ricette che ormai fanno parte di questa nuova realtà. Questo è dato dal fatto che, via via, si sono evidentemente formati nuovi legami di famiglia, sia interregionali che internazionali, e così si dà il caso che anche i figli a loro volta hanno contribuito all'introduzione di nuovi piatti al vecchio menu di famiglia.

C'è un vecchio proverbio in Canada che dice: "la cucina è il cuore della casa". Per i nuovi arrivati in Canada di quell'epoca ormai lontana, questa massima aveva

assunto e rimane ancora oggi un perno essenziale e di grande significato e attorno a cui la vecchia famiglia e la nuova, i vecchi amici e i nuovi, si ritrovano per tenere vivi i legami e le memorie del passato.

Dopo aver navigato nella storia della bella e famosa Emilia-Romagna molti di voi saranno forse presi dalla nostalgia per i luoghi che conoscono oppure da una gran voglia di visitare quelli di cui non avevano sentito parlare.

Forse il nostro veloce collage farà nascere il desiderio di provare le ricette che abbiamo descritte, non solo per la loro bontà, per i sapori degli ingredienti, ma anche per il fatto che si riconosce nella fonte delle ricette un familiare, un'amico, oppure un compaesano.

La nostra speranza, quindi, che con questo articolo, lungi dall'essere esauriente, siamo riusciti in qualche modo a dimostrare la vitalità dell'Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa e a rendere valida testimonianza ad un aspetto caratteristico del nostro piccolo mondo in Canada.

La presentazione ufficiale del nostro libro di ricette sarà fatta durante la serata di gala programmata per celebrare il 25mo anniversario della fondazione dell'Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa, che avrà luogo sabato, 11 ottobre, 2003. Con la collaborazione della Consulta Emigrazione dell'Emilia-Romagna, l'Associazione Emiliana di Ottawa offrirà una serata piena di sorprese. Fra gli invitati troviamo un artista da Bologna, Andrea Mingardi, che esibirà il suo talento alla fine della cena che a sua volta si annuncia particolarmente deliziosa perchè sarà preparata dal rinomato chef Giuliano Tassinari pure di Bologna.

Biglietti: \$ 40 per i membri; \$60 per i non membri; \$20 per i bambini meno di 12 anni.

Vi invitiamo quindi a partecipare numerosi a questa rilevante serata di gala.

Guess Who?

by Josie Bellissimo

**It's that time of year
When you guess who's who,
Everyone's dressed up
And no one recognizes you.**

**Everybody has fun
Walking down the street,
Stopping at each house
To say "Trick or Treat."**

**You get to pretend
To be someone else for the day,
Another moment of laughter
And a memory along the way.**

**Halloween is the one holiday
Children remind us of,
But it's really something
We can all enjoy and love.**

The Order of Italo-Canadians Celebrate 75 years of Service

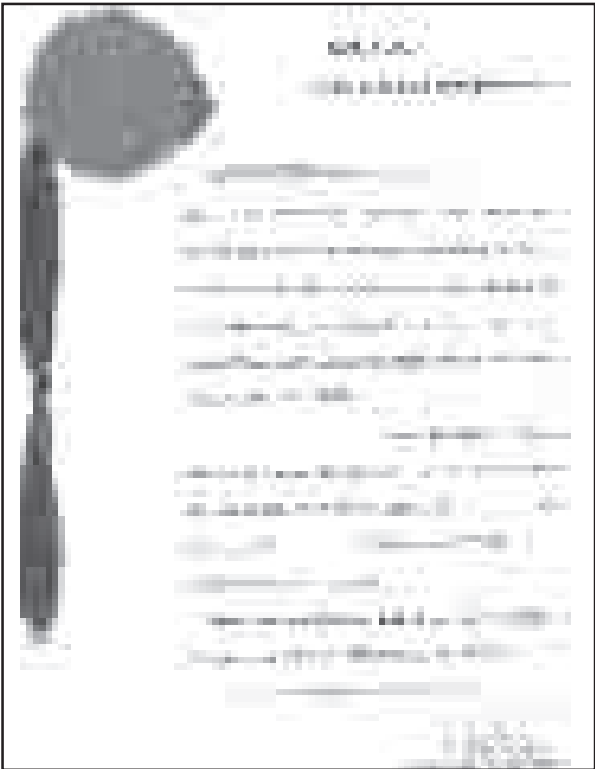
by Guido Caruso

The Order of Italo-Canadians has been, for more than 75 years, living proof of the traditions we enjoy; mainly, fraternity, respect, and solidarity - traditions that the Order has been linked to for the longest time.

The Order was born from the collective will and spirit of Italo-Canadians and recognizes the wishes of the community on behalf of the intents and continuous efforts of volunteers. This is how older and newer members find the love, dignity and solidarity they desire through one of Canada's most prominent and respected fraternal societies.

The Order ensures this by offering the possibility to choose from seven insurance certificates governed and regulated by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions.

The Order of Italo-Canadians celebrates its 75th Anniversary on October 25th 2003. The society is a fraternal benefit society that carries on its benefit and insurance work solely for the benefit of its members, their families and beneficiaries and not for profit. It is a strong financial institution which falls under the same guidelines as any insurance company. The Order is a member of the Canadian Fraternal Organization of Canada and represents one of nineteen of the fraternal registered in Canada. It is comprised of 500,000 members and has administered 12 billion dollars in insurance and financial products. The Order has a high rate of distribution of dividends and has assisted in purchasing approximately three



million dollars in residential property through mortgage loans to membership.

The CFA is affiliated with the National Fraternal Congress of America whos eighty-six member fraternal represent approximately ten million members. It is non-political and non-sectarian society. The Order was started in 1927; it grew out of

a mutual benefit society called the Independent Order of the Sons of Italy of Québec. In June of 1936, the Order received the Charter from Parliament to become a federal benefit insurance society. The Order has enjoyed continual financial success throughout the decades.

As a centennial project the Order, along with author Antonio V. Spada, published a book in 1969 entitled, "The Italians In Canada". The book is the first published document recordings of the life and times of the early Italian immigrants to Canada as well as their customs, traditions and cultural contributions. The author, Antonio Spada, was also a member of the Order and was well known for founding the Italian weekly, "Il Cittadino Canadese", which is still published in Montréal, Québec.

In 1984, the Order donated over thirty paintings to Canada. The paintings were received by the former, honourable Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau at a ceremony in the Railway Room of Parliament. Over 200 members of Parliament attended with over 150 additional guests. The Order has also established many scholarship programs. The Order of Italo-Canadians will be celebrating the 75th anniversary on October 25th and 26th. They will be honoring various people as well as holding afternoon conventions on both days. Look in next month's Il Postino for a feature article on the Order of Italo-Canadians which will include a timeline of the Order from 1927 to present day as well as photos and highlights from the October gala.

Just for Kicks!

by Elyse Van Herk

The crowd is cheering. The seconds seem to drag on for hours. You manage to gather up every last bit of strength you have in your tired, sweaty body, and with one mighty blow, you slam the ball as hard as you can down the field towards the net. Each inch that the ball glides down the field is another inch closer to victory. The score is tied and there is one minute left in the game. If you can score this, your team will win the championship. Another endless second drags on. You know that this will be the deciding moment in the game. The Goalie is perched on her toes, alert and waiting for the right moment to pounce. One mistake now could cost her team the game. The goal keeper decides that it's now or never. She dives for the ball, stretching her arms out as far as they will reach. Her fingers brush against the ball, but that's not enough to stop the mighty force of your kick. The ball continues on its quest for a goal, and with only a few seconds left in the game, it slams into the back of the net, causing a deafening cheer to erupt from the crowd. A wave of pride washes over you. Despite the fact that you are exhausted, you manage to jump into the waiting arms of your team mates, who are equally as excited as you are that the title of soccer champion is now theirs.

Although the origin of soccer is not known, many ancient civilizations played games similar to soccer over 3000 years ago. The early Olympics in Rome featured a game similar to soccer, which was so intense that after a fifty minute game, more than half the team had to be hospitalized. The fast-paced game we now know as soccer, which involves only a net, a ball and people to play with, is a bit less dangerous now, and is a favourite of millions of people around the world.

I started playing soccer when I was seven years old, on a team called the Mongooses in the under eight league with the Gloucester Soccer Association. After a

shaky start, (I was terrified of the ball and would run away whenever the black and white beast came near.) I realized, after getting hit in the face with it, that the ball wasn't such a scary thing after all. Although I didn't score any goals that year, I met lots of new friends and had so much fun that I could not wait for the next spring to come so I could play on a soccer team again.

The following year, I was on the Ravens, It was that year I scored my first goal. My team mates and I were so excited, but best of all, my parents brought me out for ice cream after the game.

After a while of playing forward, I moved on to play goalie. At first I was a little hesitant, so much depends on the goal keeper, but I quickly learned the skills needed to snatch up the ball at the very last minute before it entered my net. I thought that I had found my calling, and was goalie for the rest of the season, until at the end of the year tournament when the biggest girl on

the opposing team stomped on my finger with her cleat. After much whining and crying, I agreed to play for the last half of the game, but refused to play goalie ever again.

At the end of each soccer season, the Gloucester Soccer Association hosts what they call "Soccer Day". Soccer games are held all throughout the day, as children of all ages battle for 1st place in their age group. After one or two games for each team, the winners are decided and awarded little trophies. Every team receives a medal for participating.

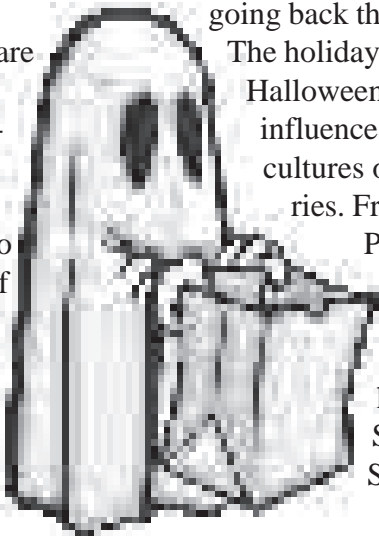
Although I decided to hang up my cleats and stop playing soccer last year, it is still a big part of my life. My sister plays soccer now, and I still have many of the great friends that I met while on a soccer team. I still think that soccer is an amazing and powerful sport in which everyone should participate. Whether you want to compete against the best, play to stay fit, or just play for fun, soccer is definitely a sport worth playing.



The History of Halloween

by Dana Elford

Halloween is a annual celebration that children and adults alike look forward to, but where did it come from? How did it originate? Why do we celebrate this holiday? Is it actually about some kind of spiritual, demon worship? There are many stories and beliefs that come with this holiday, and there are many different opinions about how this holiday came to be the way it is. Many of you probably take your kids out trick-or-treating, go to spooky Halloween parties, or participate in various community events on the 31st of October. You have probably asked yourself, what is this all for? A stomach ache and a trip to the dentist? Whether you are out on the town this Halloween, or giving out candy to all the ghoulish little monsters that ring your doorbell, If you read what I am about to

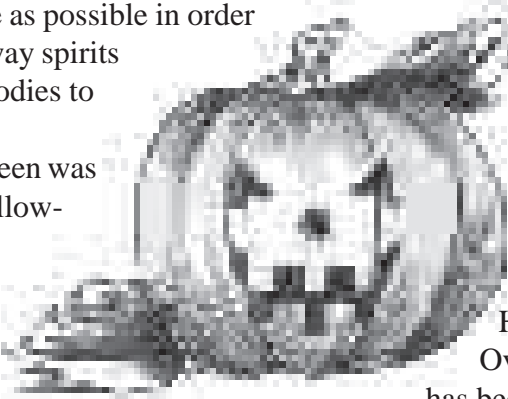


tell you, you will have a better understanding of this holiday that we celebrate every year.

Halloween is one of the oldest holidays with origins going back thousands of years. The holiday we know as Halloween has had many influences from various cultures over the centuries. From the Roman's Pomona Day, to the Celtic festival of Samhain, to the Christian holidays of All Saints and All Souls Days. Lets begin with the word Halloween. It originates from the Catholic Church, and comes from the term All Hallows Eve. In the 5th century BC, in Celtic Ireland, summer ended on October 31st. This holiday was called Samhain (pronounced sawan), and was named after the God of Death. On the last day of

October, Samhain allowed the souls of the dead to visit the homes they once lived in. So on the night of October 31st, villagers would extinguish the fires in their homes to make them cold and undesirable. They would then dress up in all manner of ghoulish costumes and noisily paraded around the neighborhood, being as destructive as possible in order to frighten away spirits looking for bodies to possess. Halloween was not called Halloween at first. When the Romans first conquered the Celts, they added parts of two of their own festivals, which were called: Feralia, a festival held to honor the dead, and Poloma, which was named after the Roman Goddess of fruit and trees. Eventually Christianity replaced the Celt Religion. Around 800 A.D. the

Christian Church declared November 1st as All Saints Day. This day honors all the Saints who did not have a special day of their own. Not being able to completely let go of their old beliefs, people began incorporating their old customs from Samhian and the Roman festivals into the All Saints Day rituals. The mass said on All Saints Day was known as Allhallowmas. The evening before, October 31st, became known as All Hallow Even. Over time the name has been shortened to Halloween. Hopefully this year, when you are getting your children all bundled up to go trick-or-treating, you will stop and think of all the cultures and events that have influenced this fun-filled holiday throughout the ages.



**St. Anthony's 90th Anniversary
Celebration
Sunday, November 9, 2003
Celebrating 90 years of service by the
Servite Fathers to the Community
1913- 2003
Novantesimo Anniversario Della Chiesa
di Sant'Antonio
Celebriamo 90 anni al servizio della
Comunità Italiana
domencia, il 9 novembre, 2003**

**St. Anthony's Church Souvenir Booklet
PERSONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Personal Recognition
In Memory of... and/or
In Honour of ...**

**Listing - \$25
Listing - \$25
1/8th Page Ad (no picture) - \$50
1/4 Page Ad (picture optional) - \$100**

**For More Information Please Contact St. Anthony's Church
427 Booth Street, Ottawa, ON K1R 7K8 236-2304**

Celebrating Angelo Fiore’s 50th Birthday and Retirement from the Ottawa Police Service

By Melodie Caruso

On Sept. 20, Sergeant Angelo Fiore was honoured at a surprise party celebrating his 50th birthday and retirement from the Ottawa Police force after three decades of service.

The celebration held at Villa Marconi, began at 6:30 when Fiore was met with falling balloons and screams of “Surprise!” Stunned, Fiore walked up the stairs with his wife Maria DoRego-Fiore, to greet family and friends.

The party, which was planned four months in advance, gathered 150 people, 35 of whom came to Ottawa from Montreal and Toronto especially for the event. Some notable members of the community were present, such as Father Domenic Fiore of St. Anthony’s Church, Nino Nicollini, Police Chief Vince Bevan, and Deputy Chief Larry Hill.

Throughout the evening presentations and speeches were made to honour and pay tribute to Fiore. The first, a slide show presented and put together by Jessica Fiore, was a photographic timeline of her father’s

life; beginning from his earliest days in Italy, to current day.

Nino Nicollini, was the next guest to speak. His speech emphasized Villa Marconi, to where the net-proceeds of the event would be donated, as a facility that is open to the entire community. He likened the openness of Villa Marconi to the mixture of ethnicities in the room that were brought together in celebration. “Villa Marconi is not a facility exclusive to the Italian community,” Nicollini said, “Instead it can be used as a bridge, for everyone.”

Indeed the evening was a bridging not only of ethnicities but also of causes for celebration. Fiore’s parents, whose 50th anniversary was

last year, never got the chance to renew their vows. However, on this evening they were called to the front of the

room, joined by their closest family members to renew their vows. Father Domenic Fiore conducted the proceedings. Afterward, the guests were asked to pop bottles of champagne the in humour of couple and their renewed union.

The couple

was presented with a cake that was adorned with 4 sparklers. Soon afterward, a cake was brought to the front for Fiore, which prompted the crowd to sing happy birthday to the retiring Sergeant.

As the cakes were being cut, two colleagues took to the front of the room to say a few words. Chief Vince Bevan, congratulated Fiore on a good career, and wished him the best for the future.

Deputy Chief Larry Hill offered a more personal look at Fiore.

Knowing him for 30 years, Hill spoke of how they met and worked together over the years. Offering anecdotes and stories of their friendship, Hill expressed the many accomplishments of Fiore not only as an officer but also as a father, husband and member of the community.

Talking with Hill, his admiration and respect for Fiore was apparent. “Our paths met one day on Sparks St. (after they had worked together at the changing of the guards),” Hill explains, “He was the one who told me that I should join the Ottawa police force.”

Undoubtedly Angelo Fiore’s life and career has touched and shaped many memories and experiences for those who attended Saturday evening. However, the party was not only a celebration of the past but a celebration of all that is to come.

Congratulations to Angelo Fiore for his many successes and constant devotion in serving his community and family!



Angelo Fiore, His wife Maria and Angelo’s parents pose for a picture.

Do You Want to Write for us?

Send us your resume and we’ll make it happen!

www.ilpostinocanada.com

THREE SPECIAL EVENINGS AT THE THÉÂTRE DU CASINO

ZUCCHERO

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19th 8pm

Buy your tickets now!
1-800-441-1111 ext. 2401
1-800-367-7744 ext. 2401

THEATRE CASINO

Holly Cole
TUES. OCTOBER 7th 8pm

ERIC CLAPTON
SAT. OCTOBER 11th 8pm

The 7th Annual Vendemmia



photo by Giovanni

Mayor Bob Chiarelli stomps his heart out!

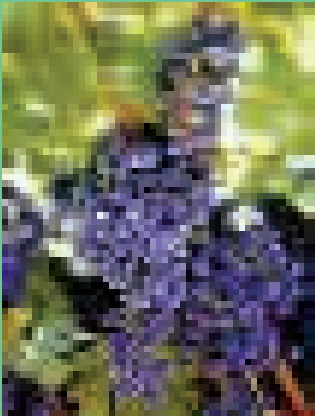


La Vecchia Trattoria's Team wins this year's Vendemmia with an amazing 3.00L of grape juice! Second place goes to Il Primo, followed by Il Garage.

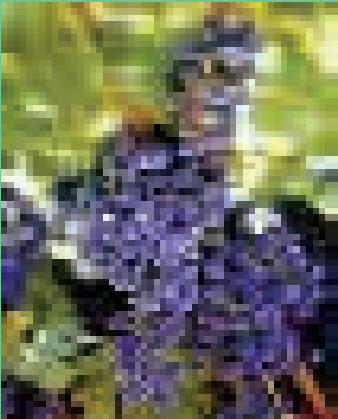


photo by Giovanni

Gary Guzzo has a blast stomping grapes.



Everyone who wants to stomp grapes gets a chance! This *team* crushed all the remaining grapes.

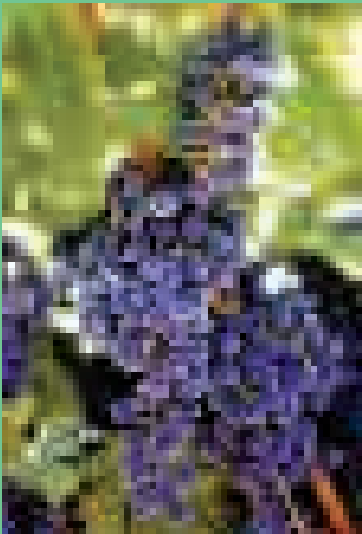


Gina Zacconi from Sala San Marco serves delicious sirloin steak in a cream and pesto sauce.

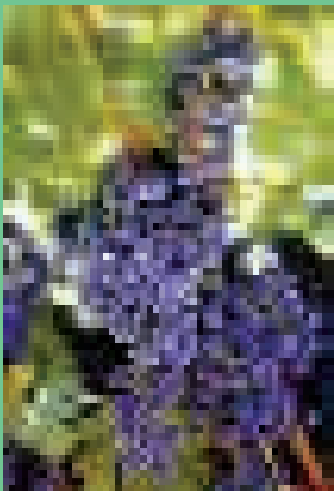


photo by Giovanni

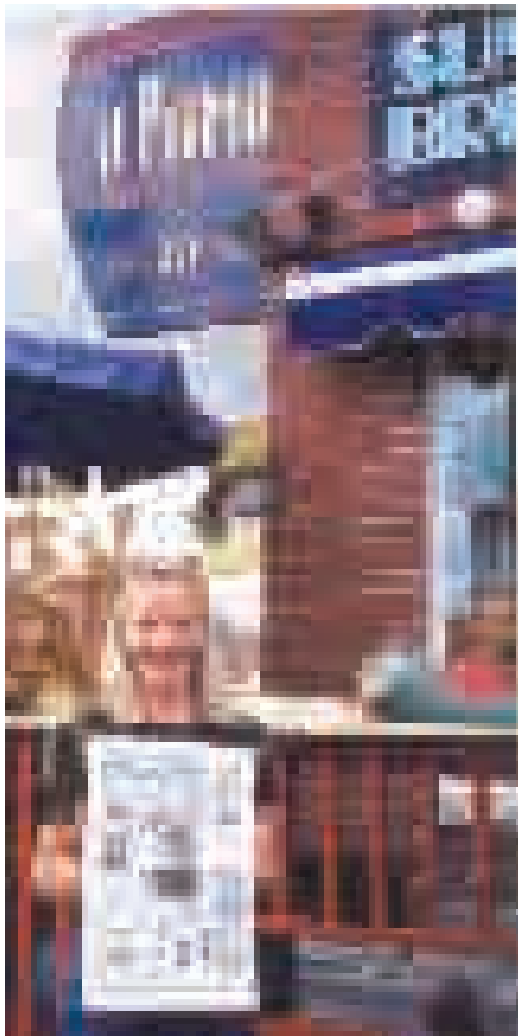
Leo, Antonella and John. Antonella and John dress up every year to stomp grapes!



Ricco from La Roma serves their famous canelloni to first time Vendemmia goer Mary Kelly.



Look Who's Reading Il Postino!



Adrianna, owner of Il Primo, always finds time to read Il Postino.



The Prescott's Tony takes a minute to read Il Postino.



Visit our
Websites!

www.ilpostinocanada.com or
<http://collections.ic.gc.ca/ottawaitalians/>



Mayor Bob Chiarelli stops the stomp for a second to read Il Postino.



Team Giamberardino wins this year's Villa Marconi Golf Tournament and takes a break by reading Il Postino.



Vendemmia Veterans from Il Garage rest while reading Il Postino



Tele-30 is key in the Italo-Canadian community, and their crew stays up to date by reading Il Postino.

Congratulations to Paul Casagrande for winning August's Il Postino Contest. He wins a pair of tickets to see Zucchero at the Casino du Lac Leamy

Treasures, Traditions and Presenza

by Ariella (DalFarra) Hostetter

How does one get information on preserving family treasures? Frustrated, I looked up the email address of the curator for Southern Europe and Latin America at the Museum of Civilization. Having found it, I fired off a message asking for some direction on how to document and preserve information on the skills in weaving, embroidery and sewing that a generation of young Italian women brought with them to Ottawa.

I had contacted the Trillium Foundation to ask for some funding to photograph and videotape the information that had been collected. No way, said the funding officer, it doesn't fit our mandate. That's when I sent off the email.

The reply from Mauro Peressini, who I did not know at all, was really positive. Yes, he was interested in meeting with those of us who had been meeting every few weeks or so after the Bingo at the Italian Canadian Senior Citizens at 10 Balsam Street. By the way, he said: "There's a large exhibit on Italian Canadians being planned for 2003 at the Museum." And they were looking for just the kind of information and materials that we had been collecting.

On one of the coldest evenings of the year in 2001 we met with Mauro at the Somerset West Community Health Centre. There were about 12 of us and we brought with us our most treasured textiles.

What I brought, looked more like a rag than anything else. It is a roughly woven leftover piece of hand woven-sheet that my great-grandmother had spun and woven in the 1920's in the tiny village of Bolago in the Veneto Region of Italy. Right now it's the only tangible link that I have to her and it served to open up a whole new world for me.

Having been educated in Canada, I assumed that the fabric was made of linen but my aunt said: "No way, it's made of canapa." The ancient paperback Garzanti gave me the right word in English. It was hemp. A little more light

was shed on this fibre when I visited the Textile Museum in Bologna. A book called "La Tela Vissuta" told the story of rural hemp and linen weavers in the area around that city.

Back in Ottawa, with the help of Maria Bonacci, we started meeting at 10 Balsam. Together with Sandra Cucinelli, Petronilla Costanza, Maria Chubb-Saviane, Vittoria Bucciarelli, Loreta Di Pelino, Chiara Anna Frate, Antonietta Della Valle, Ines Guerra, Maria Disipio, Albina Chiota, Chiara Buffone, Carmela Buda, Filomena Domenico, Anita Colombi, Matilde Zinni-Salvi, Antonietta Grandinetti and others we re-discovered the textiles that were so close to our lives. The show and tell sessions brought out some of the finest embroideries and textiles in Ottawa.

All the women had stories about producing their "corredo" while in their teens in preparation for marriage. No respectable young woman could marry and start her household without the proper number of sheets, pillow cases

and tablecloths necessary for special and day-to-day use.

Sometimes the hemp rolls (called ruotoli) were purchased. From each ruotolo, it was possible to make a set of sheets and pillow cases.

In other cases, the fabric was woven from hemp grown on the farm property. It would be soaked in water to remove the outer portion of the stem and the long fila-

ments left were then pulled apart, graded into various sizes. The

finer strands used for sheets, towels and pillow cases and the coarser ones for making tarps used in gathering hay.

The strands were then hand-spun and woven on large looms by hand during the long winter months. One of these weavers is Loreta Di Pelino, whose gardening skills are highlighted in the exhibit called Presenza. Along with

weaving enough for personal use, Loreta also used to weave for friends and neighbours in Pratola Peligna, Abruzzo. To this day Loreta still has two large ruotoli that she wove in Italy in the 1950s. And the treasurers kept on being brought in.

In the Spring of 2001, Mauro Peressini asked me if I could work with Luciano Pradal to document, the textiles and other artifacts that were held in the Italian community in Ottawa. Luciano would take the photographs and I was to

do the write ups for each object photographed. Of course I said yes. This was a good way of conserving the information on the textiles of the Italian women in our community.

In 2001 at the time when Italian Week was on, we put together an exhibit at 10 Balsam Street. There were all kinds of gardening tools, woodworking tools, copper pots, jacquard woven blankers, household linens, crocheted

tablecloths, garments and cooking utensils. Each item was photographed and the information sent to the museum.

At the end of the day, we were treated to a magnificent show of embroideries by Anna Ciliberto who came to show us

some of her handiwork. You can see this too, since the baptismal gown made for her firstborn child and an embroidered tablecloth in Assisi work are on display at Presenza.

Formally trained in Italy, one of her most treasured possessions is a book on Assisi Embroideries that she has used for inspiration during all her years in Canada. Assisi embroidery dates back to 13th century Italy. It is a counted cross-stitch worked on linen in one or two colours to produce designs intricate designs. Favourite motifs are mythological and real animals.

Another textile on display at Presenza is a table runner embroidered in cross-stitch by Petronilla Costanza. The colours are reminiscent of Sicily with its bright acquas, reds, yellows and greens. Patterns for the designs were taken from a favourite blouse that Petronilla had bought when she was in her early teens. She loved the Sicilian cart, the bluebirds and flowers so much that she has used them many times in her embroideries.

Today, little is know in "mainstream" Canada about the textile traditions of Italian women. Presenza highlights some of these. But as with so much of Italian culture, the scope and breadth of Italian textiles is huge. The Canadian Museum of Civilization has the documentation for the items that we photographed, but there is still a large quantity of materials to be documented.

Take another look at that towel with the long fringe and white embroidery or at the tablecloth with lace insets. Value it. It is part of our tradition. One that links us back to our culture and heritage.

Fall Programming – PRESENZA: A New Look at Italian-Canadian Heritage

Events Free with Museum Admission:

September 21 to December 28 - Sundays - 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. (English), 1 p.m. (French)

Once Upon a Pizzeria

Dramamuse, the Museum's theatre troupe, presents a children's story by Charly Chiarelli. **Gallery E.**

October 3 (in French);

November 14 (in English);

December 5 (in Italian) – 12:30 p.m.

Coffee and Conversation

Find out more about **Presenza** from the exhibition's curator, anthropologist Mauro Peressini.

Guided tour of the exhibition and discussion, with espresso, cappuccino and biscotti served courtesy of Francesco's Coffee Company. **Gallery E.**

October 16th at 8 pm, tickets: \$20.

I Solisti Veneti

<http://www.promart.it/SolistiVeneti/SolVenEnglish.html>

October 19 - 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Italian Delights! A Taste of Italy

Join us on Sunday afternoon to savour the rich and varied tastes of Italian regional cuisine, presented by guest chefs from several restaurants: Allegro's, Bella's, Ciccio's, Francesco's Coffee Company, Giovanni's, Il Piccolino, Pasticceria Gelateria Italiana, La Roma, Trattoria Caff  Italia, Trattoria Vittoria. **Grand Hall.**

New Singles Event:

November 13 - 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Love Italian Style!

Are you passionate about Italian culture? Meet others with similar passions for good conversation, wines and food. The evening includes a visit of Presenza: A New Look at Italian-Canadian Heritage, followed by wine tasting and delectable goodies. Purchase tickets by November 6 at Museum Box Office: (819) 776-7000. Cost: \$35, Members \$30. Bilingual event. David M. Stewart Salon.



The Abruzzi Pride Continues

by Rodolfo Di Iulio

“Bruschetta, penne, zucchini fingers, cooked rabbit, spicy thin-crust pizza, traditional folk songs and strong homemade wines made from Abruzzese hands. These are some of the staples of Italian tradition that were enjoyed at the monthly Abruzzese members’ dinner on Sept.13. These are confident Italians, proud, successful, and well-established in the Canadian mosaic. From the small impoverished towns of Abruzzo of the 1940’s and 50’s, they came to Canada with the uncertainty of what to expect, with a language barrier to overcome. Now they can fend for

themselves adequately with not only financial security and a solid reputation but also a sufficient command of English and its slang at their disposal intermixed with Abruzzi dialects to make for a unique sub-language.

They are no longer the workers who were put down by bigots of the 50’s and 60’s. Perhaps a more appropriate new acronym for these 21st century Italians might be “whopps”: witty heads-up original passionate paesani sacrificers. Indeed they made great sacrifices with passion to be at where they are now: maintaining the family values and traditions so dear to the soul. Indeed they are witty in the way some can tell you stories of their

youth days in Italy. There is the World War II story of hunger and desperation: when there wasn’t a chicken in sight to pluck and when food deposits had to be hidden underground, when there was only the worst inedible bread as hard as a rock and when they had to eat grassy vines that grew on the sides of walls. Indeed they are original and different than their Italian-American ‘paesani’ who’ve been watered down by the ‘melting pot’ concept and they are also different from their conationals who decided to remain in Abruzzo. Here the Abruzzese pride continues and one can only hope that the younger generation will continue to carry forward the culture and traditions. It suffices to say that at this Abruzzese dinner only two out of fifty people were under the age of 40. When this generation passes, will the younger generation keep our pride alive?



Members of the Centro Abruzzese celebrating San Gabriele, the patron saint of Abruzzo at Casa Abruzzo.

For more information call 230-9754

Riapertura del Parlamento

di Carletto Caccia

A Ottawa si riapre il Parlamento e, contrariamente a quanto previsto da alcuni osservatori politici, il Primo Ministro Chr tien, non solo non ha ceduto terreno durante l’estate, ma ha la ferma intenzione di procedere con un sostanzioso programma legislativo. Tre progetti di legge meritano particolare attenzione in quanto se ne parla da parecchio tempo.

Il primo riguarda il progetto di legge del Ministro degli Affari Indiani, Bob Nault, che propone delle misure a cui alcune organizzazioni indiane si oppongono. L’intenzione   quella di proteggere dalla corruzione la popolazione indiana a volte soggetta a pratiche amministrative disoneste da parte di alcuni capi indiani ai quali il governo passa somme di denaro notevoli per costruire case, servizi municipali, centri comunitari, eccetera. E’ probabile che sentiremo parlare parecchio di questo disegno di legge se, come previsto, verr  esaminato dalla Camera dei Comuni. Poi c’  la proposta che riguarda l’uso della marijuana, una misura intesa a renderne l’uso legale, in quantit  minime e per fini medicinali. Questa proposta ha destato molti timori e tocca da vicino certi nervi politici, con ripercussioni persino a Washington dove,

a quanto pare, il governo americano ha espresso una certa inquietudine. Tutti questi timori fanno eco a quelli espressi anni fa nei confronti della regolarizzazione delle bevande alcoliche che   servita a portare alla luce del giorno quella che era un’attivit  sottobanco, monopolizzata dalla malavita e soggetta a notevoli critiche.

Veniamo poi al terzo progetto di legge, di competenza del Ministro della sanit , Anna McClellan. A lei spetta il compito di manovrare in Parlamento un disegno di legge completamente nuovo che riguarda l’uso delle tecnologie di riproduzione umana. Sono ormai passati otto anni da quando una commissione speciale ha pubblicato un rapporto in tre volumi sul da farsi in merito a queste nuove tecnologie che coprono una vasta gamma, dalla fertilizzazione artificiale alla clonazione. Dopo aver ricevuto il rapporto, il governo ha svolto una serie di consultazioni con il pubblico, gli scienziati del ramo, i medici, i rappresentanti di diversi settori interessati all’argomento che   alquanto complicato. Adesso si tratta di sottoporre all’ultimo esame parlamentare le modifiche apportate a questo progetto di legge che naturalmente riceve notevole attenzione in quanto   complicato, delicato e urgente.

L  dove le leggi sono aggiornate, il pubblico ne trae beneficio.



Miss Abruzzo 2004

The Centro Abruzzese Canadese would like to invite all young ladies ages 17 to 22 yrs to participate in this year’s contest Sunday, November 23rd at St. Anthony’s Soccer Club.

Fun Activities!

Participants must be of Abruzzese descent.

Please Contact:
Sofia (Miss Abruzzo 2003): 825-1140
Gina (Princess 2003): 737-7044
Barbara: 821-3556
Lisa: 792-4144

Deadline has been extended to October 15 2003

PSYCHIC MICHELLE’S

Call 234-7999

FORTUNE TELLING
SPIRITUALIST, HEALER

Signora Michelle

Card, Palm Reading and Tarot Card Reading

TRULY GIFTED - SHE HAS TRAVELLED TO
MANY FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Michelle has the Secret and Spiritual Power
TO HELP IN

- Love • Health • Marriage •
- Happiness • Family • Business •

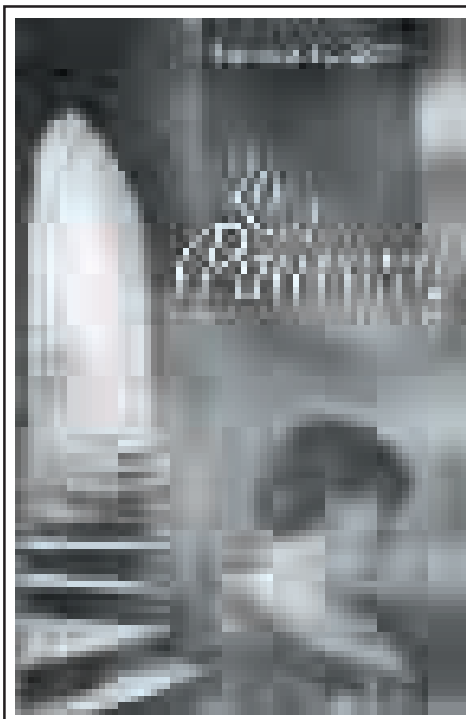
Pu  aiutare a riavvicinare membri della famiglia La Signora Michelle risponde alle vostre domande dandovi chiari consigli che aiuteranno a risolvere i vostri problemi

Una sola visita vi convincer  che ella   una lettrice dotata

ALL READINGS PRIVATE

No problem is too big
Located in Ottawa

FOR AN APPOINTMENT
CALL 234-7999 (OTTAWA)



Un Nuovo Libro di Ermanno La Riccia

“La Padrona” un libro appassionante, ove si racolta 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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

October 3rd 2003: Italian Comedy Festival Alumni Theatre at Carleton University. Produced by Joe Avati. Tickets are \$35.00, call 755-1111 for tickets.

October 8th 2003: Spese a Montreal il 8 ottobre; per informazioni telefonare a Rita Parisi 226-3865

October 11th 2003: Associazione Emiliani Serata di gala l’11 ottobre per il 25mo anniversario, sala St. Anthony S.C. Dall’Italia rappresentanti della Consulta dell’Immigrazione.

October 14th 2003: CIBPA will be hosting an open meeting for Ottawa’s Italo-Canadese at Sala San Marco. Mayor Bob Chiarelli will be present for an open discussion on issues concerning the community. Event starts at 8.30pm. Contact Tony Guerra at 728-9760.

October 18th 2003: Trevisani nel Mondo: Raduno Annuale sabato 18 ottobre nella sala St. Anthony S.C.

October 25th 2003: Club Vincentini Festa autunnale dei Vicentini e Friulani ~ il 25 ottobre al St. Anthony S.C. Carnevale mascherato il 25 gennaio 2004.

GRAND OPENING

Discover Mediterranean-Style Condo Living at our New Sales Presentation Centre

- 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen, granite countertops
- Walk to Beech Valley, the University of Ottawa, and the Experimental Farm
- Top quality construction, high quality finishes, landscaping
- 24-hour security, parking, storage

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH

\$155,900

Feature: beautiful view of the city, high quality construction, design, 1100 sq. ft., modern, clean, bright, large, open, comfortable, and spacious, parking, central, modern, clean, bright, and comfortable, high quality construction, high quality finishes, landscaping

Sales Presentation Centre
51 Beech Street
Beech Valley, Ottawa, Ontario
Call: 274-7813 or 274-7814
Friday - 9:00am - 5:00pm

1100 sq. ft.	2 bedrooms	2 bathrooms
1100 sq. ft.	2 bedrooms	2 bathrooms
1100 sq. ft.	2 bedrooms	2 bathrooms

www.acquerello.ca

74.274.7813

Send your thoughts, comments, criticisms and story ideas to information@ilpostinocanada.com

SCOPRIR TESORI

di Luciano Pradal

Sabato 23 agosto, padre Luciano Segafreddo Direttore del «Messaggero di Sant’ Antonio», edizione Italiana per l’ estero, è stato ad Ottawa su invito del COMITES locale. Lo ha accompagnato il noto giornalista e scrittore Ermanno La Riccia. Come molti dei nostri lettori sanno, il «Messaggero di sant’ Antonio», edizione italiana per l’estero, raggiunge con i suoi articoli e servizi, decine di migliaia d’italiani residenti in 140 Paesi del mondo; e il COMITES di Ottawa ha invitato padre Luciano proprio per la sua conoscenza della situazione degli italiani in tutto il mondo. Ne è testimonianza il fatto che il padre ha ricevuto a Roma, lo scorso 3 settembre, un prestigioso riconoscimento “Il Premio per gli Italiani nel Mondo”.

Padre Luciano è stato in Ottawa a “scoprir tesori”! La sua giornata è iniziata con la visita a Villa Marconi: un’occasione per rendere omaggio a tanti italiani che, attraverso il loro lavoro e il loro impegno sociale hanno cooperato allo sviluppo della società canadese. Durante la visita all’Istituto, padre Luciano ha espresso un plauso per la gestione della moderna struttura d’accoglienza per anziani italiani: «La mia visita esprime un sentimento di doverosa solidarietà verso gli italiani qui ricoverati, un omaggio alla direzione e a quanti offrono il loro apporto volontario per la promozione di questa benefica realizzazione della comunità italiana di Ottawa», egli ha detto. Il padre ha poi

visitato la chiesa S. Antonio, ove alla sera ha celebrato la santa messa, sorpreso per i tesori artistici che il tempio racchiude.

Di particolare importanza è stata, nel pomeriggio, la visita al Museo delle Civiltà in Gatineau-Hull. Gli interessava conoscere soprattutto l’esposizione «Presenza», la prima importante mostra nazionale canadese, curata dal Dott. Mauro Peressini, dedicata al patrimonio della cultura e della vita “quotidiana” degli italo-canadesi. Alle 6pm padre Luciano

era di ritorno alla chiesa di S. Antonio per la celebrazione della santa messa. E’ toccato a padre Jacques Desgrandchamps rivolgere al padre il benvenuto della comunità, offrendogli un simbolico omaggio come segno di riconoscenza. Sull’altare era esposta la preziosa reliquia di sant’Antonio, portata appositamente da Padova. Durante l’omelia padre Luciano

ha presentato i momenti più significativi della vita di sant’Antonio e i contenuti del suo insegnamento, attuali anche per la società contemporanea. Il padre ha poi parlato del «Messaggero di sant’Antonio» e soprattutto dei progetti sociali che la rivista dei frati della Basilica del Santo

promuovono ogni anno per realizzare opere sociali in territori dove le emergenze della povertà e del bisogno materiale e morale sono più gravi.

Subito dopo la santa messa, padre Luciano ha incontrato la comunità nella sala comunitaria parrocchiale e anche in quest’occasione egli è rimasto piacevolmente sorpreso per l’impegno dei giovani membri del direttivo del COMITES organizzatori dell’evento, e per il loro interesse per la promozione della lingua e della cultura italiana.

Data la grande esperienza in campo mondiale padre Luciano ha incoraggiato

i presenti a mantenere e a promuovere la cultura italiana, augurandosi che anche dall’auspicata attività di RAI International – che dovrebbe trasmettere in diretta 24 ore al giorno anche in Canada – ci possa essere una maggiore diffusione della nostra lingua e della nostra cultura. Dove però essere uno strumento di informazione-comunicazione che attivi l’informazione di ritorno, o circolare; stimoli gli italiani residenti all’estero a rapportarsi maggiormente con l’Italia e nello stesso tempo aiuti i connazionali residenti nella penisola a conoscere il patrimonio di storia, di cultura, le esperienze di vita e le realizzazioni attuate dagli italiani nel mondo.

L’incontro è stato un forte stimolo per i membri del COMITES e per la comunità italiana; un incontro quanto mai vitale per chi opera e vive per la promozione dell’identità italiana nel mondo. Fruttuoso, infine, il colloquio personale che padre Segafreddo ha avuto, prima del suo ritorno a Montreal, con i membri del COMITES: il presidente Marco Pagani, il professor Antonino Mazza, Fiore Pace, Sharon Buglione e Maddalena Ianniti che s’erano particolarmente impegnati per il successo della manifestazione. Da parte sua padre Luciano ha detto che conserverà un ricordo tutto particolare della sua visita ad Ottawa, nutrendo la speranza che la visita possa ripetersi. Sarà un’altra occasione che approfondirà i rapporti con la comunità italiana e incrementerà la diffusione del «Messaggero di sant’Antonio», la rivista della Basilica del Santo. A tale scopo, il padre incaricato il sottoscritto a dare, a quanti desiderano abbonarsi, tutte le indicazioni necessarie.



Padre Luciano, Ermanno La Riccia con una residente di Villa Marconi

The Resurrection of St. Anthony’s

by Nick Frate

I can still envision the “maestra” pointing to the map of Italy and instructing the class to recite all the names of the cities. The classroom was poorly lit and decorated with only torn brown curtains that we were never allowed to open. I used to dread my Saturday morning Italian school classes. St. Anthony’s school reminded me more of a prison than a place of learning.

Just over a decade has past. On a warm day in September I find myself revisiting St. Anthony’s school. The sounds of children laughing and shouting echo against the walls of the old building. I cannot help but notice the blooming greenery that has replaced the unwelcoming concrete jungle that St. Anthony students once knew. I enter the building and walk along the hallways on the main floor. The walls are decorated with posters and colorful lettering; a nearby bulletin board welcomes students back for a new year of school. I peer into a classroom and observe a group of students quietly writing in their notebooks; one student so focused on the task that he writes tongue-out with his nose almost touching the paper. As I head towards the principal’s office I hear giggling from a nearby classroom. It is immediately obvious that this is not the same St. Anthony’s I attended. I’m politely greeted by Theresa Swanson. Swanson is St. Anthony’s new principal. Principal Swanson who has been an integral part of the education system since 1976. She was phoned by a board superintendent on the feast of St. Anthony’s to transfer to the school. Swanson tells me she felt a connection to the school. “St. Anthony’s is an important Saint in my family; in fact

I named my son Anthony.” With a beaming smile she expresses her interest in the community. “I love working with new Canadians. I have always admired the Italian part of town as well.” St. Anthony’s has

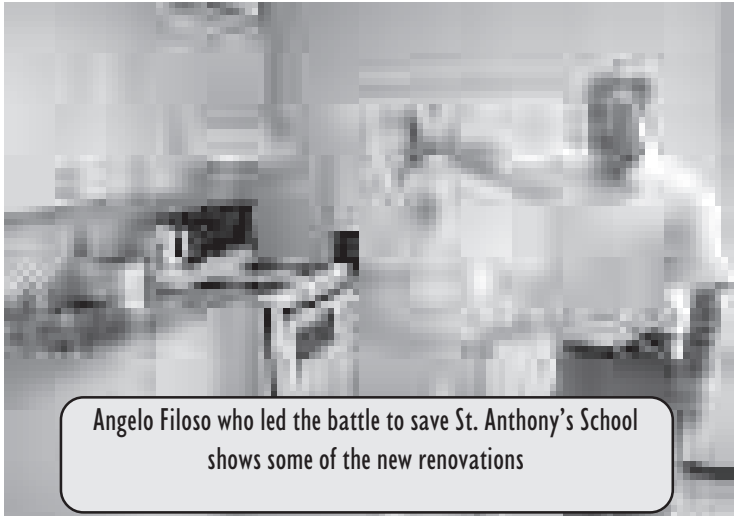
ter lab, and the rest of the machines are divided among the classrooms. A man by the name of Rocco was in charge of the bulk of the renovations. Rocco once attended St. Anthony’s. Principal Swanson

recollects how committed Rocco was to making the school beautiful and having it ready on time. Swanson emphasizes that St. Anthony’s is up to date technologically and is sufficiently equipped to accommodate the children from kindergarten up to grade

six. “The community has been welcoming to the changes and the children are appreciative of what they have.”

As a developing school, St. Anthony’s faces certain challenges; Swanson feels that teachers come to St. Anthony’s ready for this challenge. “The staff is comprised of outstanding, highly committed teachers.” When asked about St. Anthony’s church next door Swanson explains how convenient it is to plug in church with a catholic school environment and that having St. Anthony’s church makes it easier to help the children understand the concept of mass. One aspect of the school is the mix of students coming from diverse backgrounds. Swanson recognizes this as a positive. She notes that there are no problems regarding

this diversity and that through it, students gain appreciation for each other. I comment about the school’s motto, “We Help Each Other,” and ask Principal Swanson to help me gain a better understanding of what such a statement implies. The school board’s spiritual theme this year is ‘You Are The Light Of The World’. Swanson explains that this theme “fits in with the school motto. We are disciples of Jesus; we must be a light for each other and for Jesus.” She speaks of Father Paul, who in a recent homily, spoke of how children are in the place of Jesus. It is evident that St. Anthony’s school has a very bright and promising future. Through monetary assistance and community support it has flourished into a welcoming academic institution that will hopefully get to see many students advance into a secondary education. Principal Swanson and her staff represent those select few individuals who believe that education is essential and that it must be introduced when children are very young. “Everyone can learn if given the proper support. A very important part of my role is ensuring the staff and students are equipped to learn.” As I leave St. Anthony’s school I am overwhelmed by how much has changed, particularly the atmosphere. I gaze at the motto on the wall beside the main doors, ‘We Help Each Other.’ And perhaps that is a lesson everyone needs to learn; that education for the children of today, will not only endow them with the knowledge they will need for tomorrow, but that the children will know to use that knowledge positively. Thank goodness for St. Anthony’s school and its enthusiastic, devoted staff.



Angelo Filoso who led the battle to save St. Anthony’s School shows some of the new renovations

undergone some wonderful and much needed changes and upgrades. Swanson, who had visited St. Anthony’s earlier this year, felt a great deal of disappointment prior to the renovations. “When I came to the school, it was upsetting for me to see the atmosphere that learning was expected to take place in. You want the children to have the very best surroundings.” The classrooms are painted. There are new floors and new blinds – the old tacky brown curtains are nowhere to be seen! The office area is completely re-done, along with some work done to the gymnasium and the library. Funds donated by the Italian community were used to purchase an ample number of computers; most are placed in a section of the library, which will eventually become a compu-

Canada Welcomes Joe Avati

by Nick Frate

If laughter is the best medicine then international superstar Joe Avati is the pharmaceutical equivalent of Viagra. Initially on his way to a career in food sciences, Avati found himself at the centre of attention during a fundraiser when he made a casual joke about his “nonna” and “nonno”. From the response he received, Avati would embark on a comedic journey that would set precedent for ethnic comedy from then on. Avati explains that he was always comfortable with his material and that a lot of it was tested through his radio show, “The Due Compare”, which also featured his brother Anthony. In 1998, Avati began a one-man show. The interest for his comedy came in stages. His shows were quite a success in Australia, but his homeland fame didn’t quite compare to his demand from Canadian fans. With such tremendous success, Avati has been compared to Roberto Benigni and dubbed the “Italian Seinfeld.” Avati is “very flattered” by such comparisons but has always desired to stand on his own. Avati essentially began a revolution in comedy. His form of humor has opened doors to other comedians who wish to perform ethnic-based material. Avati has done shows all over the world, coast to coast throughout Canada, the United States and at home; when asked if his audiences differ from location to location Avati remarks, “The same joke is funny almost everywhere. Laughter is universal. There are select routines that may be modified for certain reasons, but generally ninety-percent of the material translates well among different audiences.” Avati’s shows are carefully structured and put together. Avati keeps his shows free of vulgarities so that his comedy can be appreciated by

all types of audiences: “couples on a date, kids and nonnas all make up my audience. You want people to respect you when you’re on stage.” Avati has gone on to break box-office records here in Canada, as well as having two number one comedy albums. In his latest release, a Video/DVD entitled, “Live In Canada”, filmed in Toronto, Avati has put together 45 minutes of choice material which he dedicates to the Canadians. “Thus far, the most overwhelming response to my material has been in Canada. It was the right thing to do.” Avati is by no means limited to stand-up. With the assistance of Pat Luca, Avati released a book entitled “No Speak English”. “The book employs the use of words, phrases, short stories and anecdotes to encompass the humorous side of the English language as seen by migrant Italians, their children and grandchildren, all over the world.” Avati has also placed a rumored sitcom on hiatus. The big budget series, which includes writers from The Larry Sanders Show and Seinfeld, would be filmed in Toronto and is entitled “No One Understands Joe.” Avati is in no rush to film the sitcom. “I’m young, I have plenty of time. Touring is my main priority right

now.” Avati is also crossing over to the big screen. With the success of films like My Big Fat Greek Wedding, Hollywood Bollywood and Mambo Italiano, Avati is starring in his own romantic ethnic comedy entitled Love Pizza, which is being released by Stone Films. His busy schedule and high demand hasn’t stopped him from producing, which Avati explains is something he always wanted to do. “I want to give something back. I want to promote other comedians who are genuinely talented.” Avati brings to his audience, The Italian Comedy Festival, which features five Italo-Canadian comedians from all over Canada. Though Avati will not be appearing in the show, he ensures his fans that it will be a night to remember. The show includes Chris Nannarone of Calgary, Franco Taddeo of Montréal and Freddy Proia of Toronto just to name some. Avati hand-picked the comedians for the festival and describes them as very talented and experienced individuals. “These comics are fresh and funny. None of the shows clash. I will only put my name on the very best.” The public can experience the laughter of the Italian Comedy Festival on October 3rd 2003 in the

Alumni Theatre at Carleton University. Ticket inquiries can be made by phoning Ticketmaster at 1-613-755-1111 or by visiting ticketmaster.ca Despite his accomplishments Avati remains level-headed. He acknowledges the hard-work and dedication involved in the business. “The fame game isn’t easy. I always strive for the content and quality of comedians like Jerry Seinfeld or Ray Romano. It comes down to not just what you say but how you say it. Be unique. Be yourself. It is beyond being a comedian, but rather being an entertainer.” Avati certainly represents more than comedy. He is a symbol of notoriety and success for Italians everywhere. His genuine appreciation for his roots is obvious in both just his shows and his personal values as well. “The world is changing. I think it is very important that family be emphasized. My family is so supportive of me. They are the show.” Avati may poke fun at his Italian background but through this comedy, both Italians and non-Italians can gain a better understanding of the culture. “Some great things come from Italy. Fashion, food, cars. Italy contributes so much.” Avati aims to bring Italians together through his shows. Italians can relate to the material and further discover their roots. He wants young Italians to realize just how “cool” their culture is. Avati is pleased to contribute so positively and he promises that he will always have quality shows. “I want to be known as a great entertainer. I want to leave at the top. If nothing else, I’ll be proud to have helped prolong and re-unite the wonderful culture I came from.” Joe Avati serves as inspiration to Italians everywhere; through his hilarious spin on being Italian, he has brought laughter worldwide and will forever rank among the best of the funny men.



Australian-Italian Joe Avati

CHIN RADIO
FM 97.9
Begins
Broadcasting
this month!
Stay Tuned!

Il Postino is looking for writers...



Our Volunteer Writer Tia Goldenberg takes time out of her busy schedule to write for Il Postino.

- ✓ write about your community, memories, opinions or tell us a story
- ✓ write in English, Italian or French
- ✓ send your articles and

www.ilpostinocanada.com information@ilpostinocanada.com

EXTREME VELOCITY
Formula One Apparel
3445 Preston Rd., Oakville, Ontario, M1T 4M9, (905) 837-4111

SPONSOR, TEAM WILKINSON, IN & OUT
JERSEYS, JORDAN, FOOTWEAR.

Ontario's only F1 store
Visit us today!

Palais, Jockey, Capri
sweater, long, and more
F1 Apparel for men,
and kids, more...

A New Community Website!

By Tessa Derksen

“Ottawa Italians”

Five or six years ago, Luciano Pradal, Augusto Capitani and other members of the community were volunteers involved in trying to set up a museum about the Preston Village. The museum unfortunately did not come to fruition because of lack of funds, however, by that time the idea had taken hold.

“They had been gathering information, interviewing people who were interested in the idea of a museum,” says Hostetter. “They didn’t want to just let it go.”

“The question became: why collect all this information if we can’t use it?” explains Hostetter.

Through a series of coincidences, the idea to produce a “virtual” museum was born.

“I was steered over to Canada’s Digital Collections program,” says Hostetter, “and saw that they were looking for proposals. So we submitted a proposal and it was accepted.”

Canada’s Digital Collections program (digitalcollections.ca) is one of the largest single sources for Canadian content on the internet. This award-winning web site brings together a collection of over 400 web sites. The sites are about Canada, ranging from Canadian science and technology to Canadian arts and culture, and are all produced by young Canadians. Many of the sites focus on the different ethnic communities living in Canada, but this web site is one of the only ones focussing on Italo-Canadians.

“We fit all of the criteria,” says Hostetter, “but most importantly we were offering something that hadn’t

the web site: Peter Maguire, project leader, Wen-Yi Que, graphic designer and web site specialist, and Tessa Derksen, writer/

old issues, dating back three years, and have been updated and added to. Some new articles have been written as well.

The web site, called “Our Little Italy,” is divided into six categories: People, Neighbours, Community, Traditions, Heritage and Future. The “People” section profiles people in the local Italian community. The “Neighbours” section focuses on the different ethnic groups that have helped to create a mosaic of cultures. The “Community” section includes important places of the community such as St. Anthony’s Church. The “Traditions” section highlights some of the cultural events and local traditions that make this area a vibrant and dynamic community. The “Heritage” section looks to the past, while the “Future” section looks at what is in store for the community in the years to come.

“The reason we had to put this virtual museum together now,” says Hostetter, “is that many people who can relate the history of the area are growing older and we need to capture their knowledge before it’s too late.”

The web site will hopefully serve a dual purpose: to record the history of the Italian community in Ottawa and to introduce its rich cultural history to the world via the internet. The web site should draw attention to the Preston Street area, get people interested in its fascinating development, and ultimately encourage them to learn about Italo-Canadian culture, or better yet come and visit us at <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/ottawaitalians/index.htm>



been done before. We are going to be the first Italian heritage web site in the collection.”

One of the most important criteria was that the web site be produced by youth because Canada’s Digital Collections is funded through Industry Canada’s Youth Employment Strategy.

The Youth Employment Strategy’s objective is to take educated, under-employed youth and provide them employment, while simultaneously involving them in a project in which they can gain valuable information and communication technology skills.

Three youth were hired to produce

editor. Ariella Hostetter and Angelo Filoso supervise the team, while Marcus Filoso provides technical support.

Although the three youth hired live within the Preston Street Area, none are of Italian origin. Therefore, they are not only gaining marketable job skills, but also a knowledge and understanding of the culture and history of their community. And, as the proposal submitted to Industry Canada says, “by documenting the material the youth will gain an appreciation of how solid communities are built and immigrant groups flourish.”

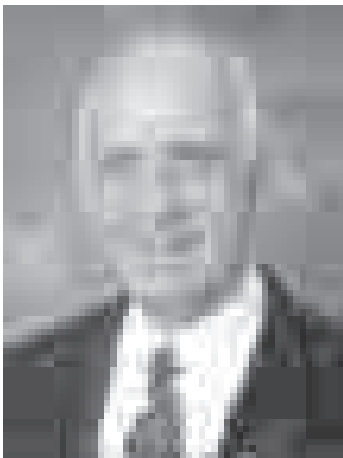
The source for much of the material is *Il Postino*. Articles have been taken from

A Heartfelt Thank You

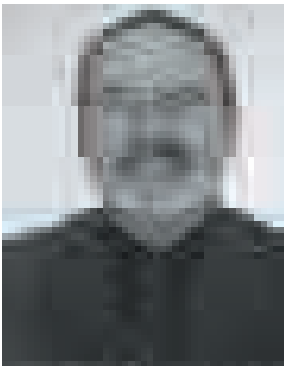
Angelo’s children would like to express their gratitude to Father Paul McKeown, Father Marcello Brodeur and Father Domenic Fiore for their beautiful tribute and for acknowledging their father’s lifetime contribution and dedication to the Italian community and to St Anthony’s Parish. Also, a special thank you to Father Fiore and the Knights of Columbus for their prayers and the honour guard at the funeral. Dad was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus and proud to have become a part of the St. Anthony’s chapter. Our heartfelt thanks to Pierangela whose angelic voice made our father’s tribute complete.

We will always remember our father as a kind and gentle man who devoted much of his time helping and encouraging others. Dad always had something nice to say to everyone he met and you always walked away from him feeling good about yourself. We are very proud of our father and we will always cherish the beautiful memories.

Angelo’s children would like to thank everyone for paying their respects through visitation, masses, flowers and donations. It is truly appreciated.



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

italo-medugno@coldwellbanker.ca

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

I have been very fortunate in life, I had wonderful parents, a warm and caring wife, respectful children and good friends.

To all my friends and acquaintances I want you to know that I have a special place in my heart for you. In life may you always have good fortune and God bless you with all with good health and happiness.

Sincerely
Angelo Licari

The Staff at Il Postino send their deepest sympathies to the members of the Licari family, and recognizes the loss of a great member of the Italian Community.

IL POSTINO



2003 Annual Villa Marconi
Golf Tournament